FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 NOVEMBER 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian planes bombed military and industrial targets in the northern Iraqi cities of Irbil and Kifri 17 November, the Iranian Joint Staff announced in a communique reported by IRNA. Iraq had launched further raids on Iranian targets the previous day, according to a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, which said that Iraqi planes carried out two attacks on the Bandar-e Khomeyni petrochemical complex, another on the nearby petrochemical complex at Bandar-e Mahshahr, and a raid on Revolution Guards camps near Ahvaz. Although Tehran radio claimed that three Iraqi planes were downed in the attacks, a military spokesman cited by INA denied that any Iraqi planes were lost. The Iraqi communique also announced that 8 Iraqi civilians were killed and 37 were wounded by Iran's artillery bombardment of Iraqi residential areas.

In earlier action, an Iranian communique cited by IRNA stated that Iranian aircraft bombed Iraqi targets in Dahuk, Al-'Amarah, and Tuz Khurmatu 15 November. An Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses that day stated that 8 Iraqi civilians were killed and 42 were injured by Iranian shelling and by Iran's air raid on Al-'Amarah. It also announced that Iraqi planes hit a large maritime target off the Iranian coast 15 November. An Iranian spokesman cited by IRNA had warned that Iran would shell Iraqi cities in response to a 14 November Iraqi raid on Bakhtaran in which 24 civilians were killed and 60 were wounded. An Iraqi communique carried by Voice of the Masses 14 November had announced a "devastating" raid on the military air base at Kermanshah, the former name for Bakhtaran. An Iraqi spokesman denied Iranian claims that Iraqi aircraft were downed during the raid, INA noted.

In another development, communiques reported by Tehran radio and IRNA announced details of another guerrilla operation inside Iraqi Kurdistan, claiming that Iranian irregulars combined with forces of the Iraqi Kurdish Democratic Party to launch offensive operations around Zakhu, Irbil, and Al-Mawsil starting 13 November. According to the communiques, the attackers destroyed an Iraqi headquarters responsible for protecting the Iraq-Turkey oil pipeline, closed an Iraq-Turkey highway, and surrounded Zakhu, which is in northwestern Iraq near the Turkish and Syrian borders. However, an Iraqi spokesman dismissed the Iranian claims, stressing that the Iraqi-Turkish oil pipeline is operating at full capacity and that the overland route to Turkey via Zakhu is open day and night, INA noted.

Iran and the United States

Iran "cannot have any relations" with the "criminal" United States, which is exporting "fear, terror, and oppression" throughout the world, Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi stated in a 16 November interview with Tehran radio. He viewed President Reagan's television speech on contacts with Iran as an attempt to "preempt any further decline of America's corrupt prestige." Nevertheless, Iran's UN envoy told IRNA that Reagan's remarks indicate the United States has adopted a "realistic" policy toward Iran, asserting that this is a "positive development" and a "drastic change" in U.S. policy. Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani indicated earlier that Iran has more information about Robert McFarlane's visit which it has "reserved" for disclosure any time the United States tries to "mistreat" Iran, according to IRNA.

An Iraqi official statement carried by INA 15 November stressed that Iraq "strongly denounces" U.S. arms supplies to Iran, "regardless of their size and nature," adding that the "clear contradiction" between U.S. deeds and words is "regrettable" and raises doubts about U.S. credibility. The statement nevertheless stressed that Iraq will continue to welcome any "honest and serious" U.S. effort to end the Iran-Iraq war, noting that Iraq does not object to U.S. attempts to reestablish relations with Iran as long as these relations do not threaten Iraq and do not prolong the war. Noting that President Reagan "ignored Israel's role in the deal" with the "suspect Tehran rulers," the Iraqi statement attributed U.S. contacts with Iran to a "dirty plot in which Zionism played an effective role," adding that this was an attempt to prolong the war in order to achieve "Zionist designs of aggression and expansion" in the Middle East.

In other Arab comment on U.S. arms supplies to Iran, the Saudi paper *Al-Yawm* expressed concern that this could undermine the regional balance of power as Iran will not use these weapons only against Iraq. Other neighboring countries could face "eventual Iranian aggression," the paper warned, adding that "Iranian designs know no limits" and that Iran's "desire for expansion" will go unchecked. In Amman, the *Jordan Times*, *Al-Ra'y* and *Al-Dustur* castigated the U.S. dealings with Iran, and King Husayn said in an 8 November interview cited by KUNA that it would be "regrettable, shocking and sad" if the United States was supplying arms to Iran. Cairo papers reviewed by MENA likewise criticized the United States, with *Al-Jumhuriyah* speaking of U.S. "duplicity" toward the Iran-Iraq war, while *Al-Ahram* warned of a loss of U.S. trustworthiness and credibility.

In Lebanon, the Islamic Jihad issued a communique 15 November urging the United States to take "more rapid and consistent measures" to meet its demands if it cares about the U.S. hostages, AFP reported. David Jacobsen's release was due to "a U.S. initiative, which if continued will bring about a solution to the hostage affair," the Jihad organization asserted.

Iranian Internal Situation

Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani praised Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, "the successor to the leadership," for his "positive initiative" in sponsoring a week of Muslim unity, Tehran radio reported. President 'Ali Khamene'i likewise hailed Montazeri's initiative in remarks cited by IRNA.

The authorities have arrested four "terrorist agents" responsible for a 19 August car bomb explosion in Tehran, according to an Information Ministry statement reported by IRNA.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad reiterated his opposition to terrorism in a 16 November speech broadcast by Damascus television, and he again proposed the formation of an international committee to define the meaning of terrorism and the lines separating terrorism from "the peoples' struggle for their causes and liberating their territories." Syria is ready to discuss this idea in further detail and to present its ideas and formulas on the matter, he said. U.S. and British leaders have not thus far taken up Syria's proposal because they do not want to combat terrorism, Al-Asad maintained, adding that if such a committee had been set up "they would have been deprived of much of the fun they enjoy in killing peoples and killing strugglers everywhere." The Syrian leader wondered how the United States can accuse his country of terrorism when the Reagan administration is itself a "master of terrorism," and he urged U.S. officials to heed the saying that "people who live in glass houses should not throw stones." As for the attempt to sabotage an El Al airliner this year, Al-Asad claimed that Israel was responsible, asserting that the Israelis "planned and drew up a scenario so that the attempt would stop prior to the actual blowing up of the plane." He also denounced the "shameful" role of the British Government, which he described as a "small satellite that rotates in the U.S. orbit."

Al-Asad touched on Syria's economic problems in his speech, which was delivered at a trade union conference, stressing the need to increase production and reduce consumption. Syria must also intensify efforts to exploit its mineral resources, he said, disclosing that work is underway to mine diamonds, which "are found in large areas and supposedly in large quantities."

In another development, Damascus radio castigated the "hostile and provocative" U.S. measures against Syria, stating that they express a U.S. desire to "strain relations" between the two countries. Vice President Rif'at al-Asad also viewed the U.S. stand as "provocative," according to a spokesman for Rif'at cited by Radio Monte Carlo. Tripoli radio likewise condemned the U.S. sanctions, and the Amman paper *Al-Dustur* viewed them as "an explicit declaration of blatant hostility toward the Arabs."

Lebanon

Israeli Raid — Israeli planes attacked a "terrorist" base near Sidon 16 November, Jerusalem radio reported, adding that the target was a naval base used for training and launching attacks. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon cited reports that one person was killed and four were wounded in the attacks, which were directed against DFLP and Fatah positions.

Amal-Palestinian Clashes — Further clashes between Amal Movement and Palestinian gunmen erupted in the Burj al-Barajinah area of Beirut 15 November, killing 6 people and wounding 43, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The fighting was triggered by the killing of two Amal members of the Camps Security Coordination Committee, an incident which was described by the DFLP and other Palestinian groups as a "mistake," according to the radio. Palestinian sources cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon announced that 5 people were killed and 12 were injured in further clashes the following day.

Israel

Anti-Arab sentiment flared in old Jerusalem in reaction to the 15 November stabbing death of a Yeshiva student, Jerusalem radio reported. Despite efforts to keep order by reinforced police units, a "stormy demonstration" was held, and several Molotov cocktails were thrown at Arab houses. Following the arrest of three suspects, Israeli officials quoted by Jerusalem radio blamed the murder on the PFLP, thus discounting claims of responsibility by "Forces-17," which AFP described as an elite PLO security unit. In remarks cited by Jerusalem television, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir called for calm and promised that the government will fight to "uproot" PLO-inspired terrorism.

Libyan-Chadian Clashes

The Chadian Government has reached a cease-fire agreement with Goukouni Oueddei's forces following clashes between the latter and Libyan units in northern Chad, Paris radio disclosed 14 November. A Chadian military communique broadcast by Ndjamena radio stated that 200 Libyans were killed and a Libyan aircraft was downed during the clashes with Goukouni's FAP forces. The fighting between Libyan "slave-traders" and "patriotic" Chadians has been continuing northeast of Fada since 12 November, the communique said. Paris radio subsequently reported that the Chadian Government has supplied arms and ammunition to Goukouni's forces.

Sudan

A high-level meeting of government and religious leaders decided to form a committee to discuss ways to end the war in the south and provide relief, SUNA reported 14 November. As for the security situation, the clandestine SPLA radio reported that 77 government soldiers were killed 11 November in a failed attempt to advance on Bor, and according to an *Al-Siyasah* report cited by SUNA, tribal fighting in western Bahr al-Ghazal has claimed 70 lives since 20 October.

DRA

Thirty DRA soldiers were killed when Afghan rebels used surface-to-surface missiles to attack a building in Konduz Province where PDPA Secretary General Najibullah and "high-ranking" Soviet officials were conferring, Tehran radio reported 14 November.

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Arab League Condemns U.S. Arms Shipments

NC141456 Paris AFP in English 1423 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Tunis, Nov 14 (AFP) — The Arab League warned here Friday that U.S. President Ronald Reagan's admissions Thursday about U.S. covert arms shipments to diplomatic feelers to Tehran introduced a "new and dangerous" element of tension between the Arab world and Washington. [sentence as received]

Speaking from the organization's headquarters here, Arab League Secretary-General Chedli Klibi condemned the arms deliveries as a "flagrant violation" of Washington's hitherto neutral policy in the Iraq-Iran conflict.

He said the league had been "even more disturbed" to learn that these deliveries, which apparently violate of a five-year-old U.S. arms embargo on Iran, had been made "with the connivance of Israel." [passage omitted]

PLO's Al-Yahya on Meeting With Israelis

JN141134 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 12 Nov 86 p 19

[By Taha al-Nu'man]

[Excerpts] Amman — Brigadier General 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, PLO Executive Committee member and PLO representative in Jordan, has said that Romanian President Nicoale Ceausescu wanted the Costinesti meeting between Palestinian and leftist Israeli delegations to be the beginning of understanding on a Palestinian-Israeli formula for a political solution to the Palestine question. Al-Yahya added that he rejected this concept of the nature of the meeting and frankly communicated this to Ceausescu. He described the meeting as one of solidarity and not negotiations and declared that Yasir 'Arafat was supposed to attend it but changed his mind after the Israeli delegation's number was reduced as result of pressures. He indicated that he did not attend the Jordanian development conference because he did not see any value in attending it in the absence of political coordination between Jordan and the PLO and since the work of the joint committee for bolstering steadfastness has been frozen.

Speaking to *Al-Ittihad* yesterday after his return from Romania, where he chaired the Palestinian side of a meeting with the leftist Israeli representatives, Al-Yahya said that the meeting with the "delegation of the democratic and progressive forces in the Israeli community was held at the request of the Israeli side which wanted, to express to the PLO representatives its solidarity with the Palestinian people's rights, headed by their right to repatriation, self-determination, and an independent Palestinian state, and to express these forces' desire for peace accordingly." [passage omitted] Asked about the meeting he and [PLO Executive Committee member] Milhim held with President Ceausescu and what the latter proposed to them, Al-Yahya said: On the morning after our arrival, the official in charge of the Romanian Communist Party's Central Committee took us to President Ceausescu, who received us in his office in Bucharest. The president talked about the nature of the meeting and said: Romania believes that the aim of your meeting with the Israeli progressive political and cultural personalities is to reach an understanding on a formula for a political solution to the Palestine question. We in Romania will be happy if the two sides reach a positive conclusion on the way to solving the Palestine question in accordance with the concepts of the right to self-determination, a Palestinian state, and coexistence between the two peoples.

Al-Yahya added: Ceausescu surprised us when he gave the meeting a larger scope and a greater dimension than the concept we had and according to which we went to Romania. I immediately replied: This meeting will not deal with any political subject and will not be a preparatory committee for any conference or any other meeting, nor will it discuss the formation of any preparatory committees for a political solution. Our PNC resolutions, Mr President, state that we can meet with any Israeli who recognizes the Palestinian people's national rights, headed by the right to self-determination. These Israelis have come from our occupied territory to express their solidarity with the Palestinian people and meet with a PLO delegation for this purpose. This is the dimension of the meeting and we do not want it to have any other dimension.

Al-Yahya added: Therefore, we decided to hold only one session and obstinately resisted the several attempts made to hold a second session. In that sole session I talked in my capacity as the chairman of the delegation. I thanked them for their solidarity and stands on our issue and spoke about our concept of true peace and those who obstruct the peace efforts. I asked them to continue their struggle for peace in their society and said that we will contrinue our struggle with our means and methods until we attain real peace. I indicated that the Palestinian people did not carry arms nor embarked on armed struggle except for the sake of real peace and that this will always be the purpose of their legitimate struggle. [passage omitted]

Contrary to what Milhim told *Al-Ittihad* shortly after his return to Amman from Romania, that he did not attend the meeting because he found the atmosphere of the meeting to be something other than he had expected, Al-Yahya said that Muhammad Milhim told him that he felt indisposed and asked him to chair the meeting.

Al-Natshah on Unity, Ties With Jordan, Syria

JN151628 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 13 Nov 86 p 4

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi — Rafiq al-Natshah, Fatah Central Committee member and PLO representative in Saudi Arabia, has said that the Fatah Movement is not expediting a PNC meeting at the expense of the efforts being exerted to restore national Palestinian unity.

Speaking at a new conference in Abu Dhabi yesterday morning, Al-Natshah added that positive steps have been taken regarding national Palestinian unity. He said that tripartite and five-man meetings were held and that basic principles governing the unity of the Palestinian factions have been agreed upon. [passage omitted]

Regarding the Amman agreement on Palestinian-Jordanian coordination and whether the Fatah Movement has relinquished it in order to pave the way for Palestinian reconciliation, Al-Natshah said that the Amman agreement will not be the cause of alienation among the resistance factions. He stressed that the Fatah Movement is ready to go farther than what was declared in the Prague statement regarding the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement, which he considered dead following the Jordanian Government's decision suspending coordination with the PLO's leadership. [passage omitted]

Regarding the Jordanian development plan, Al-Natshah said that the PLO will not resort to force to foil this plan. However, he expressed the belief that Jordan should have coordinated with the PLO. He pointed out that the PLO is not against any aid extended to the kinfolk in the occupied homeland, but it rejects seeing this plan as a reason for entrenching occupation. Al-Natshah expressed doubts that this plan will obtain the required financial support.

The Fatah Central Committee member said that the PLO is ready to restore cooperation with the Jordanian Government within the framework of the basic Palestinian principles. He stressed that the PLO will not recognize any resolution relinquishing the Palestinian people's rights under any circumstances.

Al-Natshah revealed that the Jordanian Government has rejected all of the efforts exerted by Egypt and other Arab states to restore the Palestinian-Jordanian coordination.

Al-Natshah said that the PLO refuses to establish any form of relations with the mayors who were appointed by the occupation authorities because they were appointed without consulting the PLO, The Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative. He said that the PLO rejects any attempt to entrench the occupation whether by the appointment of mayors of through the creation of other institutions by the occupation authorities. [passage omitted]

Regarding relations with Syria, Al-Natshah regretted the lack of any positive progress in the efforts to restore normal Palestinian- Syrian relations. He doubted that the PLO will continue to stretch out its hand seeking a new page in relations with Syria. He said that there is a kind of despair regarding the possibility of establishing good relations with Syria. [passage omitted]

Regarding the PLO's stand toward the anti-Syrian U.S. and European campaign, Al-Natshah said that the PLO supports Syria against any aggression and that the PLO will fight alongside the Syrian army against any aggression.

Concluding his news conference, Al-Natshah praised the GCC states' stand toward the Palestine question and described this stand as historical. He said that the Gulf states, particularly Saudi Arabia, have honored all of their commitments toward the Palestinian revolution.

Islamic Conference to Review Palestinian Cause

JN140807 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic
11 Nov 86 p 15

[Excerpts] PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih has stated that many aspects of the Palestinian cause will be discussed at the Islamic conference that will convene in Kuwait on 26 January 1987. In an interview with *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm*, he said that the most prominent of these aspects are the situation of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and ways to bolster them and the crisis of the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. [passage omitted]

On whether a suitable site has been chosen for the forthcoming PNC session, Shaykh Al-Sa'ih said: We asked some Palestinian officials to contact the leaders of Iraq, the YAR, Sudan, and Algeria to discuss the possibility of convening the PNC session on their territory. Both Sanaa and Sudan have welcomed this. Iraq also expressed its readiness to host this session. As to which of these four capitals will host the PNC session, Shaykh Al-Sa'ih said that the Palestinians have not agreed on this yet and will decide following contacts with the leaders of these four countries.

On whether the Fatah Movement has suspended its adherence to the Amman agreement based on its stand as stated in the Prague statement, Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih said that the Prague statement reflects the stands of only three Palestinian organizations — the Fatah Movement, the DFLP, and the Palestinian Communist Party — and that, for this reason, the Prague statement had no power to suspend or abrogate the Amman agreement beause the PLO Executive Committee is the only party that is authorized to suspend or abrogate the Amman agreement. He said that the Amman agreement continues to exist as part of the PLO's continuing policy until the PLO Executive Committee meets and adopts a new stand on this agreement that will be in line with Palestinian interests during the next stage. [passage omitted]

Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih criticized the so-called Jordanian development plan in the West Bank. He said: We in the PLO welcome any Jordanian or Arab support for the inhabitants of the occupied territories but we always prefer that such support take place through the joint committee that was established to bolster the steadfastness of the relatives in the occupied territories. [passage omitted]

BAHRAIN

Local Newspaper Criticizes U.S.-Iran 'Arms Deal'

JN170943 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0700 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Manama, 17 Nov (WAKH) — The Bahraini newspaper *Akhbar al-Khalij* asserts that the U.S. arms deals to Iran can ony add fuel to the fire and encourage Iran to continue its rejection of the peaceful initiatives made by many parties to end the Iraq-Iran war. The newspaper adds: These deals mean that the repeated U.S. statements throughout the past years regarding U.S. neutrality in the war and the U.S. endeavors to end it are mere lies and a cover to hide what is going on behind the scenes between the United States and Iran.

Akhbar Al-Khalij wonders about the justifications the U.S. president will present, through the messages the White House announced he will send to Arab leaders explaining his stand on supplying Iran with arms. The paper says: These justifications can deceive nobody because the issue is as clear as day.

The paper says: The United States has the right to defend its interests and to establish relations with whom it desires, but it has no right to ask the Arab world to accept its feeble justifications of its serious policy, such as the one it is following toward the Iraq- Iran war.

KUWAIT

U.S. Envoy Delivers Reagan Message to Amir

LD171106 Kuwait KUNA in English 1027 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 17 (KUNA) — H.H. the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmed al-Sabah Monday received two messages from U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Senegalese head of state Abdou Diouf. U.S. envoy to Kuwait Anthony Quainton delivered Reagan's message to the amir during an audience today. Earlier in the day, a Senegalese envoy Ahmed al-Tinqani conveyed another message to the amir.

Iraq's 'Aziz Arrives on 'Surprise' Visit

LD170823 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0758 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Nov (KUNA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Iraq, arrived here today on a surprise visit, during which he will deliver a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. It has been stated that the message deals with the current situation in the region and the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war.

Official Refuses to Comment on U.S.-Iran Deal

LD161415 Kuwait KUNA in English 1316 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 16 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Deputy Premier, Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmed Sunday refused to be drawn to comment on the recently disclosed U.S. arms supplies to Iran. Talking to reporters, he would only say the cabinet will discuss the issue on Monday.

However, two independent Kuwaiti newspapers Sunday criticized the U.S. arms supplies to Iran and agreed that Washington's move was a moral support for Iran.

Al-Qabas daily saw the U.S. "Machiavellianism" as endangering the (?region's) "interests and principles."

Al-Ray' al-'Amm local newspaper, speaking of the White House "scandal" involving arms shipments [to] Iran, said "dangers and challenges awaiting us paint a tragic picture for the Gulf peoples and call for alarm and fear."

PDRY

Al-'Attas Receives Election Greetings From USSR

EA142141 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 13 Nov 86

[Text] Brother Haydar 'Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has received a congratulatory cable from the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on the occasion of his re-election as chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council.

It reads: Comrade al-'Attas, please accept our heartfelt greetings on the occasion of your election to the high office of chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council.

We are confident that the comprehensive relations between the USSR and the PDRY, based on the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, will develop successfully in the future in the interests of the peoples of our countries and of world peace and social progress.

Comrade al-'Attas, we wish you success in your responsible post and prosperity to the friendly people of Democratic Yemen.

PLO's 'Arafat Arrives in Aden, Makes Statement

EA152312 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and Commander-in-Chief of Palestinian Revolutionary Forces, arrived in Aden this morning for a visit to the PDRY to last several days, during which he will hold talks with party and government officials on the latest developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas and ways of consolidating and developing military relations between the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions. [passage omitted]

In a statement to ANA, Brother Yasir 'Arafat said that during the visit he would discuss with the leaders of the YSP developments in the Arab, Palestinian and international arenas of interest to our Arab people. He said the worries of a Palestinian home were those of a Yemeni home. He praised the YSP's efforts towards uniting the PLO, the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people under the Aden-Algiers agreement. He said, in conclusion, that Yemen had three parts and not two — the southern, the northern and the Palestinian parts — and the problems, interests, and victories of the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions were identical.

Meets with Chairman Al-'Attas

JN162056 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1817 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with PDRY Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas in Aden last night. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed recent developments in the Arab and international arenas and the situation in the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas. The PDRY chairman reiterated his country's firm and principled stand toward the PLO and the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights.

Meets With 'Ali Salim Al-Bid

EA161854 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, received in his office this morning brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and Commander in Chief of the Palestine revolution, who is currently on a visit to our country. During the meeting, the two discussed the developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas and the reunification of the PLO. The brother secretary general stressed our party's firm and principled stand in support of the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative, for the recovery of their full rights, the regaining of their territory and the building of their independent national state on their national territory. He reiterated our party's determination to continue the efforts toward achieving the reunification of the PLO on the basis of the decisions of Palestinian unanimity and their anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist line, as well as on the basis of the Aden-Algiers agreement.

During the meeting, the brother secretary general briefed his brother Yasir 'Arafat on the steps taken by the YSP to eliminate the aftermath of the abortive 13 January coup conspiracy led and implemented by the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his traitorous gang. This gang had tried to efface the brilliant aspects of our revolutionary experiment and the role of our country at the Arab and international levels, in the service of the causes of struggle, social progress and liberation,and against the designs of imperialism, Zionism and reaction. [passage omitted]

Reportedly Will Mediate

JN161137 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 Nov (WAKH) — A Palestinian official has said that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to the PDRY is aimed at mediating between Aden and former President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. Yasir 'Arafat will meet with President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas today to get acquainted with his opinion on the possibility of reconciling with the opposition members, who fled the PDRY following the 13 January events.

Al-Ittihad, published in Abu Dhabi today, quoted 'Abbas Zaki, head of the Fatah foreign relations department, as saying that 'Arafat will not discuss with officials in Aden the reconciliation efforts among the Palestinian factions. However, he will brief the Yemeni officials on the efforts which have been exerted to convene a new PNC session and the meeting between five Palestinian factions which will be held at the end of this month to fix the date and place of this session.

YSP Official Receives Al-Sa'iqah Representative

EA141109 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Nov 86

[Text] Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant YSP Central Committee secretary general and secretary of the Central Committee, received in his office at noon today Brother Nabil Zarzar, representative of the Palestinian organization Al-Sa'iqah. They reviewed the latest developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas and the imperialist and Zionist onslaught against our Arab peoples and their nationalist and progressive organizations.

Brother Salim Salih Muhammad stressed the importance of restoring unity, allowing the groups of the Palestinian revolution,under the leadership of the PLO -- on the basis of the program opposed to imperialism and Zionism and of the Aden-Algiers accord -- to confront all the imperialist and Zionist designs and plots; in order to achieve the Palestinian people's legitimate rights of return and self-determination on their national soil under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the PLO.

The brother assistant secretary general reaffirmed our country's solidarity with and support for the steadfastness of sisterly Syria in confronting the vicious imperialist and Zionist onslaught against the Syrian people, and against all the aggressive suspect plans and solutions whicih do not aim at Syria alone, but at all the progressive Arab nationalist regimes.

Brother Nabil Zarzar expressed his pleasure with the YSP'S principled stand in support of the struggle of the Palestinian people and of all the Arab peoples and their nationalist and progressive regimes.

SAUDI ARABIA

Paper Comments on Impact of U.S.-Iran 'Deal'

JN151231 Al-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 13 Nov 86 p 5

[Editorial: "The U.S. Contradiction"]

[Text] Contradiction continues to characterize the U.S. stand toward reports about the U.S. arms deal with Iran in exchange for the release of the hostages held captive in Lebanon. While many indications confirm the United States is determined to obtain the release of the hostages, U.S. officials continue to make statements reiterating U.S. opposition to giving Iran any opportunity to obtain weapons. This has made the United States' Western allies feel somewhat confused about this contradiction between declared U.S. policy and covert U.S. stands.

The gravity of the situation is highlighted as this will constitute a serious precedent in encouraging kidnappers to carry out further terrorist acts. It will also encourage kidnappers to exaggerate their demands, as long as these demands find an ear in the countries to whom the hostages belong. This will endanger world peace and security and will sacrifice values and laws internationally acknowledged regarding exchange of prisoners. This will also enable countries, obtaining weapons through such methods,to use these weapons to undermine the security and peace of neighboring countries, as an extension of their other terrorist operations, in which they succeeded in easily obtaining weapons.

Despite all the perils of trading U.S. hostages for weapons to Iran, one cannot but wonder about the credibility of the declared U.S. policy toward the Iraq-Iran war, as providing Iran with weapons is the beginning of the collapse of balance of power in the region. Iran will not use these weapons only against Iraq. Other neighboring countries will also not be safe from any eventual Iranian aggression. Iranian designs know no limits. The desire for expansion which controls the Iranian leaders can no longer be checked.

What makes one laugh and weep at the same time is that the big powers which offer so much to save some of their citizens from captivity do not raise a finger to help hundreds of thousands of citizens, and even entire nations of the Third World, to shake off the yoke of subjugation of other countries. Are the citizens of these big powers of a different mettle than the rest of mankind?

The value of an individual and his freedom should not be subject to his geographic affiliation or creed, but should be defined by the noble values, on whose bases he deals with others, as well as the great principles by which he lives. As Muslims, we view these stands as conflicting with ethics governing relations among people. However, they in the West do not hesitate to undermine all values to serve their interests, even if this leads to a blatant contradiction in declared policies and covert stands. What is important for them is getting results in the end, irrespective of the method used to attain their objectives.

What concerns us about this issue is where will these secret U.S.-Iranian contacts lead? What consequences will they have on the state of affairs in the region? Who will guarantee Iran will not find, in this new support, encouragement to prolong the war and expand the scope of aggression against countries in the region? There is no doubt the officials of the U.S. Administration have the answers to these questions and to many other questions puzzling the wise men of this world.

Italian Defense Minister Arrives in Riyadh

LD151632 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1505 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 15 Nov (SPA) — Italian Defense Minister, Giovanni Spadolini arrived in Riyadh this afternoon on a visit to the country at the invitation of Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and general inspector, who led the welcoming delegation at King Khalid International Airport. [passage omitted]

Meets With Prince Sultan

LD161326 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Saudi-Italian official talks began at 1200 today under the cochairmanship of Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, and Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini, who is currently on a visit to the country.

The talks were attended, on the Saudi side, by Prince Fahd ibn 'Abdallah ibn Muhammad, assistant defense and aviation minister for civil aviation; 'Uthman al-Humayd, assistant defense and aviation minister for military affairs; 'Abd al-Rahman Mansuri, foreign ministry under secretary for foreign affairs; Chief of Staff General Muhammad al-Hammad, the commanders of the ground, naval, and air forces and the deputy commander of the Air Defense Forces. On the Italian side, the talks were attended by General (Alberto Giana); Francesco Ripandelli, Italian ambassador to Saudi Arabia, and the accompanying delegation.

Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has stated that his talks with the Italian defense minister dealt with bilateral relations. He described the talks as good.

In a statement to SPA, Prince Sultan said he will hold more talks with the Italian defense minister tomorrow.

King Fahd Receives Spadolini

LD161905 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] This evening, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini, currently visiting the country.

The audience was attended by Prince Soltan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister and inspector general; 'Uthman al-Humayd, the assistant defense and aviation minister for military affairs; and the Italian ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

King Fahd also received this evening the UAE ambassador to SaudiArabia, Ahmad Mohammad Abu Rahimah, who bade farewell to King Fahdon the occasion of the end of his tour of office.

UAE

Government Calls on U.S., USSR To End Gulf War

JN161130 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0945 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 Nov (WAKH) — The UAE has urged both the United States and the USSR to exert efforts and work to put an end to the Iraq-Iran war and to settle the conflict between the two warring parties through peaceful means in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions. In its capacity as chairman of the current GCC session, the UAE also called on the two superpowers to exert efforts within the framework of the international community to halt the war and prevent it from spreading, as this will endanger the countries in the region and world peace and security. This took place when Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid, Foreign Ministry under secretary, received the U.S. and USSR ambassadors separately here today.

Dailies Score U.S. Weapons Supplies to Iran

NC151410 Paris AFP in English 1351 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Nov 15 (AFP) — U.S. arms deliveries to Tehran are likely to lead to an expansion of the six-year-old Gulf war, United Arab Emirates (UAE) dailies said Saturday.

Virtually all dailies in this Arab Gulf country criticised Washington for its covert military shipments to Tehran and accused Western countries of seeking to prolong the Iraq-Iran war to help their arms industry.

The semi-official daily *Al-Ittihad*, published in Abu Dhabi, said the development showed "a change in alliances in the (Middle East) region".

The Dubai-based daily *Al-Bayan* said "President Reagan's admission of arms supply to Tehran is another proof of the vested interests of Islam's enemies in providing fuel to the Gulf war".

The Al-Shariqah based daily *Al-Khalij* said the return of U.S. influence to the Gulf region was meant to "fuel the war to enable it to expand to other Gulf areas".

The paper urged Gulf states, which have repeatedly voiced concern over the risk of a widening of the conflict, to "analyse and comprehend the real impact of this development".

The English-language daily *Khaleej Times* said the U.S. contacts with Tehran have "fueled Iran's intransigence" towards peace efforts by Gulf states and the Islamic Conference Organisation.

"The U.S. attitude will not only encourage Iran's stubbornness but has the dangerous potential of aiding its preparations for the long-threatened final offensive" against Iraq, the *Khaleej Times* said.

It added that unless Washington and other world states make efforts to end the war it may "escalate to engulf the region with serious economic and political consequences for the whole world".

It charged that the United States, France and other Western states were looking at the war "as an opportunity to boost their armaments industry".

U.S.-Iranian Deal 'Foreign Watergate' for Reagan

JN152103 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 14 Nov 86

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] It seems that the "hostages curse" will continue to haunt the U.S. presidents. Several years ago, the U.S. hostages in Tehran contributed to the downfall of former President Jimmy Carter and removed him from the Oval office of the White House. Today, it appears that President Reagan will face a similar crisis, with the only difference being he is not going to wage another presidential election campaign. The current crisis is larger than the previous one because, in the final analysis, it affects the credibility of U.S. policy as a whole, not only the policy of this or that president. It is about to be a foreign Watergate not only for Reagan, but also for U.S. foreign policy which stresses, just as the foreign policy of any other country, that there are no perpetual friendships or hostilities, but perpetual interests.

This may be U.S. pragmatism or a Machiavellian U.S. foreign policy. Yet it reveals a serious contradiction in the policy of a superpower, like the United States, which is talking about certain policies and adopts other policies. For years, the United States has been talking about its neutrality in the Iraq-Iran war, as well as about its war against terrorism and terrorists. Suddently, events have proved the contrary, and it has been confirmed that the United States has sent weapons to Iran and negotiated the release of its hostages from the hands of what it called the "terrorists." Analysts go further and say the U.S. step implies a strategic position, not a move to release the hostages.

What does this mean? It simply means that Washington wants to escalate the Iraq-Iran war. If we remember that, for some time, U.S. sources have been talking about a large-scale Iranian military operation, we will realize that Washington's objective has not been aimed at releasing one or more hostages, but at the continuation of the war so that the two countries' losses as well as the losses of the Arabs and Muslims will increase. This is in addition to giving a free hand to the enemies of the Arabs and Muslims and to Washington's allies.

Events affirm that the United States is seeking to achieve its interests. It is clear these interests are being achieved at the expense of Arabs and Muslims. This makes it incumbent on us to be aware of our interests and to seriously exert every effort to stop the war.

YAR

'Arafat Leaves Sanaa, Makes Statement on Visit

JN151532 Doha QNA in Arabic 1308 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Sanaa, 15 Nov (QNA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Sanaa today after a 2-day visit to the YAR. During the visit, 'Arafat held talks with YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on the current Arab situation in both the Arab and internatonal arena, as well as the latest developments in the Palestinian arena.

In a predeparture statement, 'Arafat said his talks with Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih centered on a number of Arab and international issues; namely, the outcome of the meetings of the good offices committee recently held in Jeddah, the situation in the Palestinian arena, the continuous aggression against the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, the Zionist gangs' growing terrorizm against the Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories, the current Judaization attempts and their danger, and attempts to commit an aggression against the Al-Aqsa Mosque. He added that the Al-Aqsa Mosque guard managed to arrest a group of Zionist soldiers who were trying to tamper with the mosque.

Concluding his statement, 'Arafat said his talks with Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih were part of joint efforts to prepare for the forthcoming Islamic summit conference scheduled to be convened in Kuwait.

Sidqi: Cabinet To Work As 'Integral Team'

NC160952 Cairo MENA in English 0738 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, Nov 16 — (MENA) — *"Al-Ahram"* newspaper took up for its leading frontpage story today the new premier's statement to the paper that economy is his Cabinet's foremost preoccupation. His Cabinet will seek solutions for the problems of prices, subsidies, export, import, taxes, customs, the rate of exchange and tourism, he said. Dr Atif Sidqi further said that there were other issues like housing and improvement of public utilities services that will also be given priority in the government's action.

The government will take an overall view of all problems and try to resolve as many as it can without resolving one at the expense of another as any problem is either a cause or a consequence of another, the prime minister said emphasizing his belief in the need for stability in laws.

Consequently new bills will not be proposed except after thorough study of all the details and the Cabinet is committed to implementing the directives President Husni Mubarak gave it at their meeting with him, in his speech assigning the Cabinet its task and in his address to the People's Assembly, the prime minister said. He further declared that the Cabinet will work as an integral team and pledged to give citizens the facts clearly and realistically and will abide by its belief that achievements and results are the best means of expressing performance.

Among the foremost priority tasks of the new Cabinet will be to solve the problems of the balance of payments deficit, foreign debts and the budget deficit and to removing red tape which defeats government decisions and impedes the progress of economic reform and affects the state's efforts to improve services, he said.

The prime minister said the government would present to the People's Assembly in December a programme of action which will be realistic and specific insofar as priorities, time schedules and potentials are concerned and will get the objectives to be achieved.

Dr Atif Sidqi said he respected the opposition and promised to listen to any objective and constructive view it had to express "for we all, majority and opposition are in the same boat and our purpose is to steer Egypt to a safe haven".

World Bank Loans To Develop Electricity, Industry

NC161526 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1145 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 16 Nov (MENA) — The third round of talks between Egypt and the World Bank will be held tomorrow in Cairo. The participants will discuss the World Bank's 1987 lending program for Egypt, which has an estimated value of about $800 million.

Dr 'Irfan Shafi'i first under secretary at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, has said that the past 2 weeks of talks put the finishing touches on the shape of the final set of consultations. The sectors that will benefit from next year's loans were also defined. These areas are: Electricity, industry, and agriculture. Dr Shafi'i noted that Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation, will meet tomorrow with (Alberto Vavila), head of the World Bank's Egyptian department. The two men are expected to lay out the framework for further deliberations, which will produce an agreement on World Bank loans to Egypt to be signed early next year.

Dr Shafi'i told MENA that the negotiations with the bank covered three sectorial loans. Two of these, each worth up to $300 million, will be used for industry and power generation. The third, which is intended for agriculture, is on the order of $200 million. He added that Egypt will have considerable leeway in channeling funds to projects most in need in these three sectors, in accordance with the priorities of the 5-year plan.

Talks With IMF Yield 'Much Closer' Views

NC151144 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA) — Talks between Egypt and an IMF delegation in Cairo will resume in the next few days, including Egypt's request for $1 billion from the IMF to support the balance of payments.

Sources in the IMF delegation have said the upcoming talks will be aimed at continuing the achievements made in previous consultations, in which the views of Egypt and the IMF were brought much closer. The sources added that the talks between the two sides over the past 2 weeks centered on a number of proposed policies and measures for financial and economic reforms, particularly the government's efforts to lower the state's general budget deficit, channel government expenditure, and stabilize exchange rates. The participants also reviewed the consultations Egypt had held with a number of friendly countries and international financial institutions to reschedule the foreign debt and alleviate the debt burden on the national economy by extending debts over longer periods of time.

It is recalled that the country's foreign currency revenues have decreased this year by $1.2 billion as a result of declining oil prices on international markets.

Economic Source Denies Liquidity Crisis in Banks

NC150705 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0628 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA) — A high-level economic source has denied a recent newspaper report that some banks are facing a liquidity crisis and are reluctant to cash checks. In a statement published by *Akhbar al-Yawm* today, the source described the report as groundless and said that the available cash in the various Egyptian banks is at a normal level.

Cairo Links Military Strength, Economic Recovery

NC162242 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1240 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Commentary by Bahiy al-Din Shu'ayb: "Increased Production and Stronger Armed Forces Are Two Pillars of Freedom and an Independent Homeland"]

[Text] Alarming events are taking place around us, and, even if we wanted to, we can neither ignore them nor shield ourselves from their effects. All these dreadful happenings have a direct or indirect impact. Some may imagine that Egypt can remain indifferent to what is going on around it, but this is simply wishful thinking, as Egypt is the principal target. All the current wars and crises are being used to weaken Egypt, so it can be finished off easily.

A quick look around gives us the following picture:

1. The chronic crisis in Lebanon. That country has become a center of conflicts involving foreign intelligence services and their suspect operations. It is fertile ground for criminal acts by armed organizations loyal to many states in the region and beyond. Lebanon itself is now a hostage of the Syrian regime, which is playing a dangerous game there — one that goes beyond Lebanon's security and unity to involve the peace of the entire Arab world.

2. The Iraq-Iran war with its military and political complications. Recent incidents have shown Iran's ability to exploit events in Lebanon for its own ends. Its revolutionary slogans are nothing but a thin veneer hiding its true motives and goals. It is also clear that the major powers are not as concerned about the Iraq-Iran war as they are about using it to guarantee their private interests.

3. The rebellion in Southern Sudan against the central government in the North. Towns and villages in the South have been besieged, and food aid is kept from the hungry. Naturally, this uprising, which is inspired by shadowy forces and unclear ambitions, is bound to weaken the grip of the central government. It will also prevent it from addressing the serious economic crises afflicting the Sudanese people.

4. The complete division of the Arabs and their inability to weather the storms that are about to destroy their stability. This is so true that each state hates the other more than it does it lurking enemies. The matter has reached the point where the Arabs can no longer do such much as convene a summit, for they cannot stand to look each other in the face.

5. The continuing conflict in the Arab Maghreb between Morocco and the Polisario Front.

6. The slump in oil prices, which comes at a time when producers have joined the weapons procurement game for fear of Iranian aggression.

7. The greatest tragedy is the inability of Palestinian groups to agree on something to solve their people's problem and free them from the yoke of occupation.

Egypt is acting against the background of this bitter situation. The principle of self-defense dictates that it not turn its back on all this, for its destiny is tied to its relations with the Arabs, even if certain Arab states are working to disrupt these links. This is hardly done in their own national interests, but out of spite for Egypt.

Thus, Egypt must strengthen its economic and military structures. As such, an end to the economic crisis would do more than just meet the people's daily needs. It would increase their security, independence, and free will. For this reason, we are all called upon to work ceaselessly to raise production and develop our services and utilities. We must also remember that each citizen is a soldier on the economic front, and that the more he works and sacrifices, the greater will be his triumph.

Meanwhile, the strengthening and modernization of our Armed Forces is a shield for every place of work, as the plot surrounding us is more serious than those who make haphazard statements can imagine. As we have already said, increased production and stronger Armed Forces are two pillars of liberty and free will. Without them, Egypt would be fertile ground for conflicts, and would be gnawed at by foreign ambitions and internal whims.

Mubarak Receives Message from U.S. President

NC161352 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 16 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today received a message from U.S. President Ronald Reagan. U.S. Ambassador to Cairo Frank Wisner had given the message to Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, during a meeting today. They also discussed the situation in the Middle East and bilateral issues. The U.S. State Department yesterday announced that the U.S. President would send Mubarak a message dealing with the logic and motives behind recent contacts between the U.S Administration and the Iranian Government.

Abu Ghazalah Begins 1-Week Visit to U.S.

NC150818 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0800 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, begins today a week-long visit to the United States. During the visit he will talk with senior U.S. officials on boosting military cooperation.

Media Reacts to Iran Arms Deal, Reagan Speech

'Contradictions' in Policy

NC152352 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA) — All the commentaries appearing in Cairo papers have emphasized that the contacts between the United States and Iran, which President Reagan said have been going on for 1 and 1/2 years, reflect a contradiction between America's public and private stands. They also throw several elements of America's Middle East policy into question, and expose Washington to a crisis involving the loss of its very credibility. In its commentary tomorrow, (?*Al-Akhbar*) notes that these contacts confirm the contradictions between America's publicly declared and privately held positions. This is not the sort of action one expects of the U.S. Administration, which has openly viewed the Iranian regime as a supporter of terrorism.

However, this same administration, in the person of President Reagan, now says that since the start of its dealings with Iran, there has been no evidence that Tehran has been involved in acts of terrorism against the United States, which is Washington's sole concern. The paper then points out that this issue gives rise to many questions about America's policy, credibility in the Middle East, and position toward the Gulf war, which has been [word indistinct]. It also casts doubt on the stand taken by Iran, which has lied to the entire world, and has always bragged about its principles. However, as it turns out, Iran's true intentions are different from its words, and it cares only about its own interests.

The paper concludes by saying that all this confirms one fact: The policy governing today's world is one of interests, power, deception, and arms dealers.

Under the title "Planned Scheme," *Al-Ahram* writes that the American Administration has begun to release information to lessen the shock which the public has already felt. The paper adds that the government has begun to put the question of secret deals with Iran in a new perspective that is more or less acceptable. The administration managed to set this up perfectly by deliberately leaking the information a few days ago. The matter then reached the level of official publicity with Reagan's confessions yesterday. It was an attempt by the administration to set priorities in America's policy toward Iran so as to be palatable to the public. According to the paper, these priorities are as follows:

First: To get Iran to abandon the idea of exporting terrorism and revolution to the Gulf region.

Second: To secure its agreement to enter into negotiaitions on ending the Gulf war.

And finally: To obtain its support for the release of American hostages held in Lebanon.

Closing its commentary, the paper describes America's clandestine delivery of arms to Iran as being in flagrant contradiction to its declared ban on weapons sales to Tehran. This is something that exposes the U.S. Government to a new crisis of contradictory words and deeds, and to the loss of its trustworthiness and credibility in the Third World.

Deal Unmasks 'Lies'

NC162148 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1845 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Interview with *Al-Jumhuriyah* Chief Editor Mahfuz al-Ansari by unidentified correspondent, carried on the "Newsreel" program; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] America's clear-cut announcement that it supplied Iran with arms through Israel, which acted as a middleman in transporting the weapons, proves that Libya and Syria were aware of the situation. It also shows that those who used to brag about a front of steadfastness and confrontation were deeply involved.

They knew about these consignments, which were intended, first and foremost, for use against a fraternal Arab state that has been subjected to Iranian aggression. Mr al-Ansari, how do you view this development, which follows America's admission and its arms deal with Iran through Israel?

[Al-Ansari] Actually, the disclosure of the most recent arms deal implies and reveals a great many things. Some people have tried for years to hide their true positions. They said they would liberate Jerusalem through Lebanon, and through the liberation of Iraq and Kuwait. All these are empty claims. The export of American weapons to the Israeli port of Elat and then on to Bandar Abbas in Iran unmasks these lies, and points to the existence of an alliance against Arabism, the Arab world, and the real interests of the Arabs, including their principal cause, the Palestinian issue. All their claims have been exposed. I believe this is something new, which has been established through the recent collusion in supplying Iran with weapons. This comes at a time when the war has entered its 7th year, when Muslim money is being wasted, and when Muslims themselves are being killed. The continuation of the Iraq-Iran conflict will enable Israel to annex and devour the Arab territories in their entirety. Iraq has indeed tried, and is still trying, to reach a peaceful and honorable settlement that would preserve the dignity and resources of both countries, and spare the blood of their peoples. Iran has rejected this for many reasons. Tehran, which has gone on and on about the archsatan, the United States, and Israel, the enemy of Islam and Muslims, is now receiving American weapons through Israel. All this lays bare their lies. I can say that this is an important factor, which may have contributed to the rearranging of the regional situation, and which has exposed the lies of Arabs and non-Arabs about our basic issue.

Reagan Remarks Cause 'Anxiety'

NC162219 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1845 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Editorial by Amal Yusuf from the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan revealed some, but not all of the facts concerning his administration's contacts with the Iranian Government. He took pains to emphasize that their purpose was to restore normal relations with the ruling regime in Iran, and not with opposition forces inside or outside the country.

In his address to the American people, Reagan described Iran as a country with considerable influence in the Middle East. He noted that it serves as a political and geographic buffer between the Soviet Union and the Middle East, a region considered vital to U.S. interests. Reagan also explained that the quantity of arms delivered by the United States to Iran could fit in a single cargo plane, and that all of them were defensive weapons. In addition, the President denied that Iran was involved in any acts of terrorism against the United States. Despite all these revelations, Reagan declared that his country remained neutral on the Iraq-Iran war.

Listing the reasons for this turnaround in U.S.-Iranian relations, the President said that Soviet intervention in Afghanistan poses a threat to Iran, Pakistan, and the Gulf. Therefore, he argued, the initiation of a dialogue with Iran would help safeguard the Gulf.

Anyone attempting to respond to these justifications should do so carefully. Reagan's remarks have caused considerable anxiety in the United States itself, and among its European allies. The Gulf and other Arab states, along with countries elsewhere in the world, are worried too. All nations are most uneasy about the duplicitous policies of President Reagan and their possible outcome.

At this point, we must note that of all people, Israeli agents served as middlemen in the supply of arms to Tehran. This is something that the American President avoided mentioning in his speech. The fact, which we must state, is that international relations, rather than being the reflection of openly announced policies, have grown into clandestine affairs conducted by rulers behind the backs of those whom these policies affect.

Reagan Justification 'Feeble'

JN170759 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 15 Nov 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Reagan's Admission"]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan's admission that the United States supplied Iran with U.S. arms and his insistence that the supplies consisted of only small quantities of defensive weapons and spare parts confirm the duplicity of U.S. policy toward the Iraq-Iran war and the Middle East situation in general. At a time when the Gulf leaders depend on the United States to abort the Iranian efforts to purchase weapons from the world market, Reagan himself admits that Washington is the side which supplies Iran with weapons.

Reagan tried to justify this duplicitous policy by saying that he sought to establish contact with moderate elements inside Iran. This justification is as feeble as the justification that the economic sanctions against South Africa would harm those who are suffering from racist oppression. Reagan's adminission damages Washington's credibility in any role it might undertake in the Gulf war or the Middle East in general. It also confirms the theory that interests, not principles, govern policy.

Reagan 'Encourages' Terror

JN132044 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 12 Nov 86 p 12

[From "An Idea" column by Mustafa Amin]

[Text] World public opinion has denounced the secret talks between President Reagan and Iran to bring about the release of Americans held hostage in Lebanon in return for arms and spare parts for Iran. People ask how can this happen when Reagan is asking his government's allies to boycott states accused of supporting terrorism. How can the United States ask France to sacrifice its trade interests with Iran while at the same time the United States supplies Iran with arms and spare parts? The world believed secret deals between states no longer took place and that deals were now made out in the open. However, it transpired that the U.S. President was negotiating secretly behind the backs of his secretary of state and secretary of defense and that Secretary of State Shultz was, like the deceived husband, the last to know.

President Reagan has made Shultz appear ridiculous: He sent him to Europe to persuade European leaders to take a hard line on terrorism while at the same time he was bargaining with the Iranian Government which had instigated its men in Lebanon to kidnap Americans. It appears Iran has discovered that the best way to blackmail Americans is to kidnap their men and then ask for a large ransom in return for their release. Iran did just that a few years ago when it held Americans hostage at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

The submission of the United States to terrorism in Lebanon will blunt the enthusiasm of European states for combatting terrorism and economic interests will take priority in any decision made by the European states. We cannot combat terrorism with two faces: a tough face, and a smiling face; a threatening face and a pleading face. President Reagan's action encourages terrorism and furnishes Iran with proof that terrorism is profitable. Countries encouraging terrorism must realize terrorism is harmful and does not pay and that anyone resorting to it will lose, not win. It is a mistake for which President Reagan will pay in the next presidential elections. Such strange behavior will be one of the weapons with which the Democrats will fight the Republican Party, which is arming those who kidnap Americans.

Iraqi Speaker Arrives; To Confer With Mubarak

NC161948 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1908 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 16 Nov (MENA) — Sa'dun Hammadi, speaker of Iraq's National Assembly, arrived in Cairo this evening for a visit that will last several days. Hammadi will meet with President Mubarak during his stay, and will hold talks with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who was on hand at Cairo Airport to receive him. In a statement, Hammadi said he has come to Cairo on the instructions of President Saddam Husayn to confer with President Mubarak on bilateral relations and the overall Arab situation. He noted that Iraq and Egypt have been exchanging information for some time, and hold consultations on significant issues.

Hammadi also referred to the Iraq-Iran war in the course of his remarks. He said Tehran resorted to missiles to strike at Baghdad and residential areas in Basra once it recognized the efficiency of Iraqi air raids on strategic and economic targets in Iran. He added that Tehran is employing this tactic in a bid to deter and stop the activities of the Iraqi Air Force. Hammadi continued: Iran wants to divert attention from its relationship with the United States and Israel, and the understanding among them. He pointed out that his country has outlined its position on U.S. arms supplies to Iran.

Sudanese Official Arrives for 3-Day Visit

NC171100 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0951 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA) — Muhammad al-Hasan 'Abdallah Yasin, member of the Sudanese State Council, arrived in Cairo this morning on an official 3-day visit. During his stay, the Sudanese guest will hold official talks with a number of Egyptian leaders on strengthening bilateral relations. Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister, minister of agriculture and land reclamation, and NDP secretary general, who received the Sudanese official on his arrival, will lead the Egyptian delegation at these talks.

In an arrival statement, Muhammad Yasin said that the purpose of this visit to his second homeland, Egypt, is to discuss relations between the two peoples of the Nile valley, as well as ways to strengthen them. His talks will also focus on inter-Arab relations. He added that he will extend the greetings of the Sudanese people and government to President Mubarak and the other Egyptian officials. He affirmed: We hope that this visit will have good results for the future. Replying to a question about the possibility of holding talks on party cooperation between the two countries, the Sudanese official said that current discussions will be conducted at an official level. Partisan affairs will be discussed within another sphere, he added. With regard to the problem of the south, he stated that the Sudanese Army is now exercising complete influence in this area.

Concluding his statement, the Sudanese official said that the relationship between Egypt and Sudan does not need much discussion since it is an eternal one. He added: I will brief President Mubarak on all the talks which have taken place at the executive level of the State Council. Dr Yusuf Wali welcomed the guest to Egypt, his second homeland. He stated: We hope that this visit will be fruitful and successful.

Beirut Paper Reports Secret Visit to Algeria

NC170821 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 14 Nov 86 p 1

[Exclusive report from Cairo]

[Text] Sources in the Egyptian presidential office said yesterday that a high-ranking Egyptian diplomat made a 2-day secret visit to Algeria this week. The sources said that the aim of the visit was to hold talks with Algerian FLN leaders on a number of Arab issues including the Lebanese crisis, the Iraq-Iran war, and developments in the Palestinian arena, particularly the Palestinian meeting which is expected to take place in Algeria soon.

Guerrilla Operations Against Israel Urged

PM131355 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 5 Nov 86 p 5

[Dr Muhammad Ahmad Khalafallah article: "I Approve of Terrorism!"]

[Text] As far as I am concerned, I recommend and urge terrorism; I recommend it to everyone against whom aggression has been committed and who has had his human rights usurped; I also recommend it to everyone who has failed to recover his usurped rights because of the usurper's strength, refusal to return the rights to their claimants, and rejection of all resolutions by the international organizations, which reject force as the legitimate support for everyone who usurps a right and wants to keep it for himself.

I urge in particular every Arab in the greater Arab homeland to deal with Israel on the basis that it is a usurper that has decided to keep what it has usurped regardless of the Arab stand in particular or the international stand in general.

Israel was first to use terrorism in our Arab territories and the first to work to eliminate the people seeking to repel agression against their holy land. It is amazing that resistance to aggression should be called terrorism and aggression itself not called terrorism; it is amazing that Arabs who are defending their rights should be described as terrorists yet those who are still using terrorism to this day are not.

The Arabs have only one way to repulse aggression against their rights; their way is the way of self-sacrifice, the way of guerrilla warfare.

Experience has taught the Arabs that Israel always wins in official lightning wars because of its own strength and the strength of international Zionism and imperialism. Experience has also taught the Arabs that Israel does not heed international organizations' resolutions which do not suit Israel, Zionism, and imperialism.

The Arabs have realized that nothing can satisfy Israel except Arab recognition of it as a legitimate state among the region's Arab countries, regardless of its usurpation of the land on which it established its state, which is unjust.

The Arabs have also realized that Israel, backed by imperialism and Zionism, sees bilateral agreements as the only way to such legitimate recognition; as for negotiation at the national level, it is rejected, and negotiation at the international level is unlikely, unless it is an umbrella for bilateral agreements.

The Arabs have known all this, sometimes through experience and at other times through intuition, and have come to the conclusion that there is no other way to deal with Israel except struggle.

Arab cultural values say: If anyone attacks, you attack him the same way. They also believe that what has been taken by force can be regained only by force.

The Arabs have also realized from their experience of struggle that an official war is unlikely because of the superiority of Israel, imperialism, and Zionism. They know at the same time another fact, that self-sacrifice through guerrilla warfare is the only way to disturb Israel, imperialism, and Zionism. This disturbance will force them to reconsider the matter of Arab territories.

The Arabs do not fear death, especially when it is in order to make truth prevail and recover the usurped rights; they are ready to sacrifice scores of their children for a single child of Israel, as they win because of their superior numbers.

The Arab experience in Algeria yesterday and the Arab experience in Lebanon today have taught Israel and imperialism that it is easy for Arabs to sacrifice themselves for their homeland.

There is no way for the Arabs other than the way of guerrilla warfare, with the self-sacrifice that that involves. Regarding the word terrorism, the Arabs should understand that this is an accusation leveled against them to distract them from fedayeen action.

The terrorists are the Israelis and the imperialists, but the Arabs have right on their side, for which they must struggle, and so there is no harm in them repelling the aggressor.

Once again: If anyone attacks you, attack him the same way.

Violence in Occupied Territory Not 'One-Sided'

NC170746 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0635 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA) — The *Al-Jumhuriyah* newspaper emphasizes that violence in the occupied Arab territories is not a one-sided affair. Both historically and in fact, Israel has perpetrated acts of violence against the Palestinian people. This violence, which began a long time ago, has continued until the present without interruption. The Israeli occupation forces, the paper adds, react to the skirmishes and popular uprisings of those who own the land with the same level of violence. These Israeli forces always resort to acts of revenge as though we still lived in the darkness of the Middle Ages.

In its editorial today, *Al-Jumhuriyah* says that the violence practiced by the Arab people in Palestine cannot in itself be labelled action; it is instead a reaction to Israeli violence. Armed and peaceful resistance in the occupied territories will only stop when all forms of military, economic, and political occupation end the paper notes, particularly military occupation. The paper urges Israel to respond to the calls for peace from throughout the world. It must not adhere to outmoded utterances such as "the land of Israel" which stop any efforts for peace.

Mubarak Receives Envoy to Israel 16 Nov

NC161631 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1455 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 16 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met today with Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Muhammad Basyuni, who is currently in Cairo. The president also received Eng William Najib Sayfayn, the former minister of state for immigration and Egyptians abroad. His excellency then spoke with Sa‘id al-Najjar, the IMF's former executive director for the Middle East and economics professor at Cairo University. In addition, the president had an appointment with Abraham Rosenthal, visiting executive editor of *The New York Times*. That meeting was also attended by Dr Mamduh al-Biltaji, head of the Public Information Authority.

Basyuni Departs for Tel Aviv

NC162126 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2055 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 16 Nov (MENA) — Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Muhammad Basyuni left for Tel Aviv this evening. In a predeparture statement, said he had come to Cairo for consultations with Dr ‘Ismat ‘Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. In response to a question from MENA on the positions taken by the new Israeli Cabinet, Basyuni noted that Egypt deals with governments, and not individuals.

Hungarian Trade Official Arrives for Talks

NC150827 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0637 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA) — Zoltan Gombocz, Hungarian deputy minister of trade, arrived in Cairo early this morning for a 4-day visit. During the visit, the Hungarian official will hold talks with Egyptian officials on boosting cooperation and increasing trade within the framework of the cooperation agreements signed by the two countries.

Government 'Strongly Denounces' U.S.-Iran 'Deal'

JN151347 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1215 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Nov (INA) — Iraq has strongly denounced the U.S. Administration's act of supplying the Iranian regime with quantities of military hardware, regardless of their size or nature, within the framework of its attempts to establish relations with Iran. This came in a statement made by an Iraqi official spokesman today to INA. Following is the text of the statement:

As reports spread about U.S.-Iranian contacts and about the deal to supply Iran with quantities of U.S. military hardware, we preferred to be patient until the picture became clear. After the announcement made by President Ronald Reagan on this issue on 13 November, it has become necessary for us to define our stance in an accurate and clear way:

1. As a responsible country, Iraq does not object to any endeavors by any state to establish normal, honest relations with any other state, even if this state is Iran, which is launching a war of aggression against us, as long as these relations do not threaten Iraq's security, safety, and sovereignty or contribute to prolonging the war of aggression against it.

2. In the past, Iraq welcomed the announced U S. stands calling for an end to the war and for achieving an honorable peace according to UN Security Council resolutions, which the United States endorsed. Iraq will continue to welcome any honest and serious effort exerted by the United States to this effect.

3. Iraq deeply bemoans, in fact, it strongly denounces , the fact that the U.S. Administration's attempts to establish relations with Iran or with circles in the Iranian regime should also include supplying that Iranian regime with quantities of military hardware, regardless of their size and nature.

4. The U.S. Administration knows full well — and said this many times — that Iran is the stubborn party insisting on continuing the war and on threatening Iraq's security and safety, as well as regional security and stability. Iran rejected all the resolutions of the Security Council, of which the United States is a permanent member. How could the U.S. military hardware given to such a regime lead to the objectives defined by President Reagan in his abovementioned speech? The U.S. Administration itself affirmed in the past that the best way to put pressure on Iran to make it change its stand is to not supply it with weapons and military hardware.

The steps disclosed by the U.S. president completely contradict this policy as well as statements made by senior U.S. officials, particularly the U.S. secretary of state's statement to the 7-member Arab foreign ministers committee during his meeting with them in Washington in October 1985 and with the GCC foreign ministers during his recent meeting with them in New York in October 1986.

5. This clear contradiction between deeds and words is regrettable and casts doubt about the policy of a superpower,which is supposed to assume great responsibilities for safeguarding world peace and stability. It also makes one raise questions and doubt the credibility of the declared policies of this country as well as its commitments.

6. In his 13 November speech, President Reagan ignored Israel's role in the deal with the suspect Tehran rulers. The U.S. Administration is fully aware that Israel's objectives vis-a-vis the war Iran is waging against Iraq conflict with the objectives President Reagan announced in his speech. The Zionist role in this operation is one of the things enhancing the uncertainty about the reality of the declared objectives of the secret contacts with Iran, so long as there are no clear and tangible steps for eliminating these doubts and suspicions.

7. Our analysis of what has taken place is that it was a dirty plot in which Zionism played an effective role. The aim of the plot was to strike suspect deals to prolong the Iranian aggression against Iraq and to continue threatening security and stability in the region to achieve Zionist designs of aggression and expansion there.

For our part, we would like to reiterate on this occasion that this dirty game, irrespective of its dimensions, will not change the basic facts and results of the situation. It only demonstrates the lowliness of the Iranian regime, which is founded on charlatanism, shows its political and military bankruptcy, and confirms the strength of the Iraqi position in its political, ethical, and military aspects.

Radio Cites Foreign Media Reaction to 'Arms Deal'

JN141700 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] Arab and world media have disclosed further facts about the arms deal between Iran and the United States. They affirmed the real U.S. stand on the Iranian aggression against Iraq, a stand that aims to prolong the aggression and to encourage the Iranian regime to continue the aggression.

In an editorial published in its 15 November issue, the Kuwaiti Magazine *Al-Nahdah* says the U.S. stand refutes all U.S. claims on the need to end the Iranian aggression. The magazine says the U.S.-Iranian arms deal has exposed the truth about the labels of all those organizations in Lebanon which are in fact affiliated with the Iranian regime. The magazine says that, by the announced deal or by other deals, which are still secret, the U.S. Administration has set a serious precedent unknown in politics. By submitting to terrorism, it encourages it and prompts others to practice terrorism.

The [Kuwaiti] magazine *Al-Majalis* says the U.S.-Iranian deal affirms that U.S. credibility is words for consumption and mere ink on paper when the matter concerns U.S. interests. *Al-Majalis* asserts that, by reneging on the principle of not supplying the aggressor Iranian regime with arms, spare parts, and hardware, Washington has provided the Iranian side with all the means it needs to continue its aggression, and all the justification that makes it persist in its rejection of the peace efforts and continue with its threats to expand its aggression.

Al-Majalis adds that the United States has opened its arsenals and the arsenals of its friends and allies to supply the Iranian military machine with the means and equipment it needs to continue its aggression against Iraq and to carry out its daily threats to area countries.

The Soviet news agency TASS says all evidence confirms that the Reagan administration did not only dispatch certain weapons to Iran but also approved the wide-scale export of U.S. arms to Iran. TASS adds that Zionist businessman (Goren Eisenberg), who, together with 19 others, was accused by a New York federal court of secretly selling U.S. arms to Iran for $2 billion, said the deal was approved at the highest levels in the Reagan administration. He requested that U.S. Vice President George Bush be summoned by the court as a witness.

AFP says that U.S. President Reagan attempted to justify his negotiations with Iran when he said to Congress that the aim of exporting military hardware to Iran is to win over some of the moderate elements in Tehran as a prelude for the post-Khomeyni era.

'Aziz Affirms Military Superiority Over Iran

JN141916 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT 14 nov 86

[Text] London, 14 Nov (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has affirmed Iraq's ability to confront and wipe out any coming Iranian aggression. In a statement to *Al-Tadamun* magazine to be published here tomorrow, Saturday, Tariq 'Aziz said Iraq has proved, on the political, military, and human levels, its ability to remain steadfast and to inflict heavy losses on Iran. He added that Iran has been defeated politically and it has been proved that Iraq's stand is sound, thus gaining the respect and support of its fraternal Arabs, as well as that of the world.

Tariq 'Aziz added that the Iraq-Iran war will be a major topic at the next Islamic summit in Kuwait for many reasons, including the continuation of the war for 6 months, the fact that the summit conference will be held in a country that is directly affected by the war, and the existence of a broader Islamic will to discuss the issue of the war.

Tariq 'Aziz stressed that Iraq demands a just and final solution to the conflict based on international law and the UN Charter. He added that Iraq will not allow any maneuvering similar to Security Council Resolution 242 — a maneuver that will remain a bleeding wound forever.

'Aziz said if Iran announces its intention to end the war and to reach a peaceful settlement of the conflict, Iraq will immediately accept this because this is what Iraq calls for.

On the Israeli stand toward Iraqi aerial superiority, the foeign minister said the Zionists are worried over any Arab progress in any field, including Iraqi progress in the Air Force. They are plotting by all means, particularly through their weapons cooperation with Iran, he said. 'Aziz said Israeli support for Iran is aimed against Iraq's air and navy forces, its political will, and economic resources. We expect such plotting, and all Arabs must also expect it if they want to succeed.

Jasim on Residential Shelling, U.S.-Iran Ties

JN151714 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Nov (INA) — Replying to the suspect Iranian regime's practices against civilian inhabitants, the exposure of these inhabitants' security and stability to danger, and the shelling of purely residential areas in Baghdad, Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim made a statement to INA in which he said Iran's strikes against purely residential areas in Iraq is not new but a daily practice. He added the Iranian regime unethically strikes at defenseless civilians whenever it possesses the means and the opportunity to do so. He indicated that several residential areas in many Iraqi cities are bombed almost daily and civilian victims fall, including women and children, as mentioned in the Iraqi military communiques.

He pointed out that when the Iranian regime possessed some missiles which could reach Baghdad, it used them to strike at the residential areas in this city. The minister added: Despite its overwhelming superiority in this regard whether in terms of destructive power or the means of using it, Iraq has thus far desisted from striking at residential areas for well-known principled and humanitarian reasons. He questioned the new developments which prompted the Iranian rulers to blare out their threats to expand their strikes against residential areas and said: What is new is the exposure of the relationship between some of the Iranian regime's leaders and the United States and Israel, as well as the United States' arms supplies to Iran, whether directly or through increasing the quantities of weapons shipped to it by the Zionist enemy to include the share of both the United States and the Zionists.

He stressed that this scandal prompted the Iranian rulers to blare out their empty threats because these rulers hope these practices will compel Iraq to reply in kind and strike at residential areas. The Iranian rulers will then get a chance to cover up the scandal and divert the Iranian people's attention from this important issue which sparked off the conflict among the regime's leaders in an accelerating manner.

He emphasized that Iraq's patience over strikes against residential areas will not last long and that Iraq will undoubtedly reply at the time and place it chooses, so that the Iranian regime will continue to face the scandal of the relationship with the United States and Israel — a relationship which is shaking its entity — and so that we do not give this regime's leaders a chance to escape from their people's punishment.

Minister Yasin Receives Soviet Republic Official

JN161524 Baghdad INA inArabic 1425 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Nov (INA) — Industry and Minerals Minister Subhi Yasin received Yevgeniy Kalenik, first deputy prime minister in the Moldavian SSR [title as received], and the delegation accompanying him here today. During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations and ways to promote them between the two countries. Kalenik praised the progress and development in Iraq in all areas in general, and in the construction and industry areas in particular.

Ramadan Confers With Kalenik

JN162117 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1452 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Nov (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, met with Yevgeniy Kalenik, first deputy prime minister of the Moldavian SSR [title as received], and the delegation accompanying him here today. During the meeting, they discussed relations between Iraq and the Soviet Union and stressed the importance of promoting cooperation among the popular and professional organizations in order to deepen ties of friendship between the two friendly peoples. 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin, youth minister and chairman of the friendship societies with peoples, and the Soviet ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

The Soviet delegation is currently visiting Iraq to attend the celebrations to be held during the Iraqi-Soviet friendship week.

Tariq 'Aziz Receives Romania's Ilie Vaduva

JN151837 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Nov (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with Romanian Foreign Trade Minister Ilie Vaduva this evening. During the meeting, they discussed relations between the two countries and issues of common interest.

Armed Forces General Command Battle Report

JN141804 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,440 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. On the anniversary of the birth of the prophet, may God's peace be upon him. Our valiant Armed Forces embody the true belief in the tolerant Muhammadan mission by their heroic struggle in defense of the land of divine missions and Islam's values and by confronting the shu'ubi [anti-Arab] currents of distortion and and falsification. It is a good omen that this immortal day in our nation's history should coincide with the anniversary of the pledge made by the masses of the people to the prophet's descendant, who is following the prophet's line, the honest custodian of the nation's values, the struggler leader Saddam Husayn.

O God, on this blessed day we ask you to protect our country and to grant our leader a long life and to bless his efforts and struggle, preserve him for Muslims, and to consolidate our victory, which you promised to believers for you always keep your promise.

Following is a roundup of our activities for last night and today:

1. Further to our Communique No 2,439 issued today, our Air Force continued its heroic activities against the centers of aggression. At 1635 [1335 GMT] today, scores of our aircraft launched a devastating raid on the Kermanshah military air base, which is used by the Khomeynite clique in its aggression against our country. Our brave pilots destroyed all of their targets at the air base. There were explosions at the air base and columns of smoke were seen rising from it. Our pilots returned to base safely and victoriously.

The combat missions carried out by our Air Force in the abovementioned communique totaled 138 combat missions, after which all of our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. An enemy force estimated at one infantry company attempted to advance toward the positions of one of our forward units in the II Army Corps central sector. Our brave men engaged the enemy force and compelled it to withdraw, having killed or wounded a number of its soldiers.

In other areas of the same sector five enemy personnel were killed and two observation posts were destroyed.

3. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, eight infantry positions were destroyed; seven enemy personnel were killed; one 106-mm mortar was destroyed; and one antiaircraft gun was destroyed and its crew was killed. One large vehicle was damaged and the enemy engineering work was halted.

4. In the VII Army Corps sector, one machine gun emplacement, one shovel [preceding word in English], and one infantry position were destroyed.

5. In the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan, our forces engaged an enemy patrol, killed a number of its members, and seized one (GS) rifle and one RPG-7 launcher, and destroyed two observation posts.

6. The aggressor Khomeynite clique fired one of its missiles at Baghdad. The missile hit a residential area, martyring a family consisting of a father, a mother, and their five children. The attack also wounded 63 civilian citizens, destroyed 4 houses, and damaged 4 other houses.

The charlatan clique also shelled residential areas in the steadfast city of Basra using long-range artillery. Five civilian citizens, including 3 children, were martyred, and 20 civilian citizens, including 7 children and 5 women, were wounded as a result. Two shops, one school, and one civilian vehicle were damaged, and one house was destroyed.

In the Halabjah District, enemy shelling martyred one child and wounded a child and a pupil.

Once again the Iranian rulers demonstrate their disregard for international law and the principles and norms that govern a state of war. By their cowardly acts the despots demonstrate their failure in achieving their aims on the battlefield.

We declare to the world, the Arab public, international organizations, and to our great people that Iraq's patience with such vile actions will not last long and that, at the appropriate time, it will adopt all measures to safeguard its citizens' security, lives, and property.

Mercy to our martyrs and a quick recovery to the wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 November 1986

Communique No 2441

JN151743 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,441 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 15 Novemebr 1986]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The following is a roundup of our activities for last night and today:

1. Our gigantic Air Force continues to deal devastating blows to the despotic Khomeyniites to destroy their means of aggression against our country and their attempts to prolong the war. At 1315 [1015 GMT] today, our aircraft launched a successful raid on a large maritime target off the Iranian coast, scoring an accurate and effective hit.

Our bold aircraft carried out 122 combat missions today, during which they launched daring raids against the Khomeyniite forces in various sectors and destroyed some of their rogues, weapons, and equipment. After carrying out all of these missions, the brave hawks returned safely with their aircraft, praise be to God.

2. The valiant IV Army Corps units spotted an enemy group consisting of approximately 15 persons opposite our positions in the East Maysan sector. Our units fired on them, killing 10 elements. They also fired on some enemy vehicles, destroying one and damaging three. In other parts of this sector, five enemy soldiers were killed and one machine gun emplacement was destroyed and its men killed.

3. The brave III Army Corps soldiers in the East Al-Basrah sector destroyed one bulldozer; halted the enemy's engineering works; destroyed one vehicle loaded with ammunition; killed three soldiers; and destroyed one medium-caliber machien gun, eight infantry positions, and one ammunition dump.

4. An enemy group was pounded and forced to flee in the II Army corps central sector. Three knaves were also killed and one infantry position was destroyed.

5. Two enemy aircraft penetrated our international border and attacked a hospital in Al-'Amarah in the Maysan Governorate, injuring 13 civilians, including a child; demolishing 1 house; and damaging 4 other houses, 13 ambulances, and 5 civilian cars.

6. The immoral Khomeyniites shelled the residential areas in Basra and in the Al-Qurnah and Mandali Districts with long-range artillery. The enemy shelling martyred 5 civilians; wounded 26 civilians, including 2 children and 4 women; and damaged 1 house and 3 civilian cars in Basra. It also martyred three civilians; wounded three other civilians; destroyed one house; and damaged four houses and four civilian cars in Al-Qurnah District. One house was destroyed in Mandali District.

Mercy to our martyrs and a quick recovery to our injured, God willing. We will take revenge on the wicked ones.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 November 1986

Communique No 2,442

JN161840 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,442 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 16 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Great Iraq moves from one victory to another while its enemies are sinking in the abyss of defeat. God Almighty has revealed their ties to Zionism and imperialism in order to be defeated during their lifetime and punished in the hereafter. The following is a roundup of our activities for last night and today:

1. Our Air Force, Iraq's strong arm, which brandished swords in the face of the homeland's enemies and fists beating the Khomeyniite heads who insist on war, are continuing to destroy the bases of injustice as well as all of the vital military means and targets which are being exploited by the Khomeyniite clique in its aggression against our country. The brave Iraqi hawks carried out the following heroic duties in 117 combat missions:

a. At 1200 today [0900 GMT], scores of our fighter planes carried out an intensive, destructive raid on the petrochemical complex in the port of Bandar-e Khomeyni where our hawks, who are known for their skill and courage, managed to hit and destroy selected new targets in this vital complex. They also raided the targets previously hit to prevent the enemy from repairing them. The explosions and the smoke and flames covered the raided area.

b. At the same time, a number of our fighter planes were raiding the air defense networks in the port to destroy them.

c. At 1225 today [0925 GMT], a large number of our fighter planes raided the concentrations of the charlatan Khomeyniite guards in the Ahvaz area, causing severe damage to their camps installations, equipment, weapons, and ammunition depots and hardware and inflicting losses on the enemy personnel.

d. At 1615 today [1315 GMT], a large number of our fighter planes raided another extremely important petrochemical complex in the city of (Mashahr) in southern Iran. Our brave hawks managed to penetrate the enemy's defenses and all of the measn it has prepared to protect this complex. After flying over their targets, our fighter planes bombed the targets to destroy and burn them.

e. At the same time, other fighter planes were dealing blows for the second time today to a large petrochemical complex in Bandar-e Khomeyni to destroy other new targets in this vital complex, the machine of the Iranian war, adding new destruction to the raided installations. After carrying out these heroic missions, our Air Force hawks returned to the homeland safely and victorious with their planes. Glory to great Iraq, to its brave Army, and to its brave Air Force — command, hawks, officers, and ICO's. God be praised for granting us victory.

2. Our units in the III Army Corps sector in the East Al-Basra sector opened the fire of their weapons at the enemy's units opposite them, killing seven people; wounding others; destroying two mortars, three infantry positions, two vehicles, one shovel [preceding word in English], one machine gun emplacement; and killing its personnel.

3. One of our units in the central sector of the II Army Corps observed a group of enemy personnel numbering 15 soldiers. Our unit attacked them and killed all of them. In other areas of the sector, a heavy machine gun was destroyed; an ammunition depot was burned; and one enemy soldier was killed.

4. During their missions in the no man's land in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan, our patrols seized a light machine gun and a quantity of equipment which had been previously abandoned by the enemy.

5. Expressing its grudge and its failure to face glorious Iraq, the Khomeyniite clique shelled residential areas in our brave border cities, martyring 3 civilians, including a woman and a child; wounding 12 civilians; and damaging 4 shops and 15 houses in the city of Basra. In the Al-Qurnah district, the enemy shelling martyred two civilians; wounded seven others; and damaged a mosque, the city's hospital, and eight civilian cars. The criminal enemy also shelled the city of Halabjah, martyring 3 civilians; wounding 18 civilians, including a woman; destroying 25 houses; and damaging 4 shops.

Mercy to our martyrs and a quick recovery to our injured, God willing. We will take revenge against the wicked ones.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 November 1986

Reaction to Iran Arms, Reagan Speech Cited

Husayn: Arms Deal 'Shocking'

LD141737 Kuwait KUNA in English 1546 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] London, Nov 14 (KUNA) — King Husayn of Jordan has warned that an Iranian victory in the Gulf War could lead to the destruction of the Arab world. He said if the United States was actively providing arms to Tehran it would be "regrettable, shocking and sad."

The king pointed out in a television interview carried out before President Reagan's admission that America had sent "defensive weapons" to Iran, that it would be unlikely to lead Jordan into breaking diplomatic relations with Washington. The Jordanian monarch gave his views to an audience of British youngsters in a satellite link to Amman for BBC Scotland.

In the interview recorded last Saturday, [8 November] and to be broadcast on Monday night [17 November] King Husayn said of any U.S.-Iran arms deals: "We would have to look at all aspects of relations with the United States in the light of what transpires in the near future."

Quizzed about the Iran-Iraq war, he said "Jordan's policy was one of continued support for Iraq".

The Hashemite monarch went on "I do believe if Iran should succeed, the dangers are great to the entire area and maybe to the world because there is a dimension of fomenting the creation of a rift within the Muslim ranks between Sunnis and Shi'ites and creating dangers throughout the area".

He also warned of dangers to the "very Arab identity."

The king added "we certainly hope this war will not end with the Iranians over-running the area and destroying the very world in which we believe and to which we belong".

U.S. 'Double Standard' Hit

JN150932 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 Nov 86 pp 1, 25

[Editorial: "Customary U.S. Double Standard"]

[Text] A full week after prevaricating and dodging questions, President Reagan admitted to having held direct contacts with the rulers of Tehran and to providing them with U.S. weapons and military spare parts in contravention of pledges and commitments by Washington over the past 6 years. With this acknowledgement, coming as it did from the highest official in the U.S. Administration, one can only describe what has transpired between Washington and Tehran over the past months as an act which goes beyond the question of violating a U.S. law or declared policy. The world is now convinced that while the U.S. Administration urged others to fight terrorism, it betrayed its principles and has made world governments and peoples question its principles.

What President Reagan's administration did has no parallel in contemporary international relations. U.S. arms were being sent to Tehran from several countries while the United States publicly adopted combating terrorism and terrorists as the cornerstone of a multifaceted international campaign to isolate terrorists and their sponsors. Hence we do not regard this bizarre discrepancy between the U.S. Administration's rhetoric and deeds as a domestic U.S. affair, given Washington's intensified anti-terror efforts with some U.S. circles linking Arabs with this reprehensible scourge, especially after U.S. bombers attacked an Arab country which allegedly sponsored terrorism.

We condemn this U.S. flouting of ideals and principles shared by all countries opposed to terrorism in all its forms and we disapprove of involvement in this scandal by President Reagan's administration itself. We are not unaware of the implications of supplying Iran with U.S. arms and spare parts not only for the Iraq-Iran war, which has recently seen alarming escalation, but also for overall U.S. Arab relations, already wanting in trust and credibility even before this scandal came to light.

Reagan Remarks 'Unconvincing'

JN151028 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Nov 86 pp 24, 28

[Article by the political affairs' editor: "The United States and Western Democraties Encourage Terrorism; the Ransom Comprises Weapons and Funds"]

[Text] At last, U.S. President Reagan has broken the silence and officially admitted the White House was involved in intensive negotiations and contacts with Iran, interspersed with arms shimpments, while the United States proclaimed Iran was a country which encouraged terrorism and that it had implemented laws against Iran banning any dealing with it and any arms shipments to it.

The U.S. President put forth the unconvincing justification that he was arming and dealing with the moderate elements in Iran such as Hashemi-Rafsanjani and that he was seeking to release the hostages and end the Gulf war.

Observers wonder: What went wrong with Western countries regarding terrorism after all this hue and cry about condemning terrorism, refraining from negotiating with terrorists and offering concessions, and refusing to deal with governments supporting terrorism? Following all these affirmations, we find that France, the United Kingdom, and the United States are submitting to terrorism. They negotiate with it, cooperate with it, and offer concessions at the expense of their laws, principles, and friends.

France gives $1 billion to Iran with compound interest as ransom for the release of two hostages in Beirut and the remaining part of the political and military price of this suspect deal has not been disclosed yet.

The United Kingdom keeps silent about a kidnapping carried out by the Israeli services in London, but raises a hue and cry against Syria merely because Al-Hindawi contacted the Syrian Embassy in London, seeing this as an involvement in terrorism calling for severing of relations and enciting of allies to take measures against this Arab country which daily continued to deny having any connection with terrorism. Chirac, a Western prime minister, admitted in a moment of truth that the theatrical piece of the El Al explosion had been prepared by the Mosad which sought to embarrass an Arab country and make itself appear to the world as an efficient and alert body.

As for the United States, the leader of democratic countries, it submits to terrorism in a disgraceful manner, violates its own laws and declared policy, permits the export of weapons to Iran which insists on continuing the war against the Arabs, and dispatches McFarlane to Tehran to plead on his knees for the release of the hostages and to respond to financial, political, and military demands.

Finally, there is President Reagan's admission to Congress men that he has given in to blackmail, allowed U.S. weapons to be sent to Iran, and has negotiated with Iran for the release of U.S. hostages in Lebanon. However, he does not repent or apologize, but tries to justify this disgraceful action by saying he did not send the U.S. weapons directly from the United States but through a third country, Israel, that he did not negotiate with terrorism through official figures since McFarlane is retired, that he did not negotiate with the terrorists face to face but through mediators, Japan in this case, that he did not conclude the deal with the terrorists in Lebanon but with their masters in Tehran, and that he did not violate any U.S. law.

He said his only aim was to establish contacts with the moderate elements in the Iranian regime. This shows moderation is a relative question. Iran will be seen as moderate by just agreeing to negotiate with the Arch-Satan and by imposing its conditions on it, while for Arabs to be seen as moderate it could go as far as the point of expelling Saudi Oil Minister Al-Yamani as part of the price asked for releasing the hostages. [Sentence as published]

The Western stand submitting to international terrorism engenders scorn and anger. The United States does not only insult Arab intelligence but also gives weapons and funds to the Arabs' terrorist enemies, Israel and Iran, and offers Arab interests and Arab security as part of the ransom. It has now become clear that the pragmatic polices Western Democracies adopt are the best inducements for terrorism, as these policies provide funds and weapons for terrorists and highlight the fact these democracies do not respect moderation, ethics, and the supremacy of the law. These are stupid policies which can only encourage more terrorism and kidnappings.

As for the Arabs, they now know the source of the missiles fired on Basra and Baghdad and on the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. It has suddenly become clear that the United States and terrorism are in the same trench. The United States and Israel have been caught red-handed. It goes without saying that terrorist organizations and governments in the world will understand the clear signal given by the United States and its allies. They will act accordingly and resort to the language producing guaranteed results in terms of funds, weapons, and concessions.

'Fatuity' of Speech Hit

JN160817 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 16 Nov 86 p 4

[Editorial: "What a Sham!"]

[Text] Ronald Reagan Columbus is all of a sudden rediscovering the strategic value of Persia. Or so at least is what the U.S. president appeared to be saying in his speech to the American nation on Thursday.

That speech was much worse than a "public relations game," so Senate Democratic leader Robert Byrd had put it. It was at best an exercise in fatuity.

Why were the Reagan men secretly sending arms to Iran, for a period of 18 months, if not to exchange those arms for the American hostages held by pro-Khomeyni terrorists in Lebanon? Ronald Columbus, of course, had all the answers:

— to renew a relationship with the nation of Iran;

— to bring an honourable end to the bloody six-year war between Iran and Iraq;

— to eliminate state-sponsored terrorism and subversion; and

— to effect the safe return of all hostages.

So far so contradictory. But wait for the back-up statements to see just how much more misleading and fatuous the U.S. president chose to be in his address to his fellow Americans. "without Iran's cooperation, we cannot bring an end to the Persian Gulf war...For 18 months now, we have had underway a secret diplomatic initiative to Iran," he said.

As if diplomatic initiatives are usually and normally launched by barrels of guns, or on board of planes loaded with military spare parts and anti-tank missiles, that Mr. Reagan justifies his actions. As if the U.S. has not always been committed, at least publicly, to halting arms supplies to Tehran as a necessary prerequisite to stopping the senseless war, that he acknowledges seeking Iranian cooperation and concurrence.

Not a word in his speech did the super president mention about the role of Israel in coming up with the idea and partly executing the "staunch" operation. Why?

Not a word of apology did he have for those Europeans whom he had pressured to take steps against countries supporting terrorism. Why?

A superpower stoops so low, compromises its principles and abandons its long-standing policies in order to justify its dealings with sponsors of international terrorism. Nobody did any wrong. Everything was in America's and peace's interest. That is the only way the president of the United States of America wants it and would have it. What a sham!

U.S. 'Two-Faced' Policy Hit

JN161048 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 16 Nov 86 pp 1, 22

[Editorial: "Lessons From Reagan's Speech"]

[Text] Yesterday, Iraq condemned the U.S. Administration's deals on the arms shipments to Iran — the shipments that have been going on for a long time. These shipments have now been revealed and the U.S. president was forced to announce them in public on television.

Although President Reagan tried to convince the U.S. and international public opinions that these deals were necessary for improving Washington-Tehran relations and that they were not aimed at bargaining over the U.S. hostages in Lebanon, his argument failed to convince large sectors of international public opinion, especially in the Arab arena. Quite the opposite, the president's argument strengthened the belief that the U.S. credibility has diminished and that U.S. policy attaches more weight to the deterrent strikes it receives than to the ties of friendship it maintains with other parties.

In light of all this, we conclude that President Reagan has given observers a lesson on how to deal successfully with his administration and the method to which this administration finds itself inclined to respond.

On another level, it has become obvious that Washington is interested in prolonging the Iraq-Iran war, fanning its flames, and escalating the danger which threatens the Gulf region. It has also become clear that the U.S. Administration wants to exploit this danger in order to impose its hegemony on the region, that the arms shipments it sent to Tehran were meant as a message of intimidation to the Gulf states, and that these shipments were aimed at encouraging the Iranian rulers not to respond to the international, Arab, and Islamic mediation efforts to end the war with Iraq. This take places while the U.S. Administration claims to be interested in ending this war and backs efforts exerted in this regard;

If Reagan's speech contained anything can be of benefit to the Arabs, it is that it has exposed the two-faced policy with which Washington has deluded the Arabs for a long time. Washington has been deceiving the Arabs into believing that it is adopting a stand on the Iraq-Iran war that is completely different from its true stand on that war. Now, it has become clear that the United States is a party to this war and that it is practising strange political bargaining to benefit from that war.

In the final analysis, the lessons that are to be learnt from Reagan's speech will not be in the interests of the United States. The important thing is that the Arabs must benefit from these lessons and draw the proper conclusions.

Iraqi National Assembly Speaker Arrives in Amman

JN161742 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member, Iraqi National Assembly speaker, and President Saddam Husayn's envoy, arrived in Amman this morning on a short visit to Jordan. Dr Hammadi said that he will convey a verbal message from President Saddam Husayn to His Majesty King Husayn on fraternal relations between the two brotherly countries, ways to enhance them, and the current issues in the Arab arena. He added that the message falls within the framework of consultations and the exchange of information and viewpoints between His Majesty King Husayn and President Saddam Husayn on the current situation in the Arab region. Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah and Iraqi Ambassador in Amman Ghafil Jasim Husayn received him at the airport.

King Husayn Receives Hammadi

JN161744 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member, Iraqi National Assembly speaker, and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's envoy, at the Al-Nadwah Palace today. Hammadi conveyed a message to his majesty from his brother President Saddam Husayn. The message deals with relations between the two fraternal countries and current developments in the Arab arena. Attending the meeting were the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the Court minister, and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

AL-DUSTUR Denounces U.S. Measures Against Syria

JN160929 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 16 Nov 86 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Rejected Measures"]

[Text] Within the framework of the coordinated western campaign against fraternal Syria, the United States decided to adopt a number of political and military sanctions against this Arab country in a feverish attempt by the western alliance to undermine the Arab position and blackmail the Arabs under the spiteful accusation of terrorism.

No doubt this new aggressive stand which was announced by Washington the day before yesterday will increase tension in this highly volatile region. This tension directly serves Israel's interests and aggressive schemes.

Therefore, the party that welcomes the rejected U.S. measures most is Israel, the creator of genuine systematic terrorism, which found in the U.S. sanctions against Syria a unique opportunity to cover up its terrorist policy, and to escalate tension in the region in preparation for implementing its aggressive intentions under the cover of the official U.S. campaign against the Arabs in general and Syria in particular.

It is the most amazing paradox that at a time when the United States admits to having concluded secret deals and paid a large ransom to terrorists openly backed by the Iranian capital, it adopts military and economic measures against fraternal Syria under the same pretext of terrorism.

Hence, we view the U.S. Administration's denounced measures against Syria as an explict declaration of blatant hostility toward the Arabs, as well as a premeditated attempt to charge them with terrorism. Moreover, the sanctions constitute a step which will exacerbate tension in this region of turmoil, and will encourage the Zionist enemy, which rejoiced over these measures, to carry out a premeditated aggression against fraternal Syria.

Therefore, while denouncing the provocative anti-Syrian U.S. measures, we draw attention to what Israel might plan in such an atmosphere which increases the Zionist enemy's appetite for further expansion and aggression.

Egyptian People's Assembly Speaker Arrives

JN162052 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, Egyptian People's Assembly speaker, arrived in Amman today heading a parliamentary delegation on a 5-day visit to Jordan at the invitation of 'Akif al-Fayiz, House of Representatives speaker.

In a press statement, Dr Al-Mahjub said that the strong relations between Jordan and Egypt, the foundations of which were laid by His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency Muhammad Husni Mubarak, require that we always meet within the framework of consultations, coordination, and the exchange of viewpoints on political Arab issues in general, and on the relations between Jordan and Egypt in particular. He indicated that this visit falls within the framework of the consultations, coordination, and the bolstering of relations between the Jordanian House of Representatives and the Egyptian People's Assembly. Al-Mahjub added that he will convey a verbal message from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to his brother His Majesty King Husayn. He said: We convey our sincerest congratulations to His Majesty King Husayn on his happy birthday and wish him a long life and further success in serving the brotherly Jordanian people and the Arab causes.

Al-Mahjub was received at Queen Alia International Airport by 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the House of the Representatives; a number of the House's committee chairmen; secretary general of the Parliament; and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman.

Officials Receive U.S. Congressional Delegation

JN152021 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received in his office this evening Lee Hamilton, chairman of the Europe and the Middle East Subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee, who is currently visiting Jordan within a tour of some countries in the region. The meeting was attended by a number of U.S. House of Representative members accompanying Hamilton and the U.S. ambassador in Amman.

Staff Lietenant General Fathi Abu Talib, chief of staff, received the U.S. congressional delegation at the General Command this morning. Talks dealt with the military situation in the region and with issues of interest to the Armed Forces. The chief of staff explained to the delegation members the basis of Jordanian military policy. A number of aides to the chief of staff and the U.S. charge d'affaires in Amman attended the meeting.

Prince Hasan Leaves for Geneva, Netherlands

JN141421 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan and Her Royal Highness Princess Tharwat left Amman for Geneva and the Netherlands today on a working visit that will last several days. During his stay in Switzerland, his royal highness will chair the sessions of the Islamic-Christian dialogue which will be held during his visit. He was seen off by Ra'd ibn Zayd, Chief chamberlain; the higher education minister and chairman of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilization Research; the planning minister; the mayor of Amman; chief judge; secretary general of the Royal Court; and a number of high-ranking civilian and military officials.

Islamic Jihad Endorses U.S. Initiative

NC150959 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0948 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] The Islamic Jihad Organization has declared that the release of David Jacobsen was the fruit of a U.S. initiative, adding that if the U.S. Government proceeds with this initiative, the issue of the hostages will be resolved. In a statement sent to a foreign news agency in Beirut with a photograph of U.S. journalist Terry Anderson, who was kidnapped on 16 March 1985, the organization asked the U.S. Administration to proceed along the same road which led to the release of Jacobsen. The organization asked the U.S. administration to adopt swift measures to meet our demands, as the statement puts it, so that the rest of the hostages can be released.

Reaffirms Buckley 'Execution'

NC151142 Paris AFP in English 1133 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Beirut, Nov 15 (AFP) — Islamic Jihad, a pro-Iranian extremist group holding Western hostages in Lebanon, on Saturday urged the United States to continue its initiatives if it wants all of its hostages released.

President Ronald Reagan caused a domestic and international furore on Thursday when he admitted there had been secret arms deliveries to Iran, but denied that he was paying a ransom for the American hostages.

In a typewritten communique in Arab distributed to Western news agencies here and accompanied by a photograph of Terry Anderson, 38, one of the American hostages it is holding, Islamic Jihad said the U.S. Government should take "more rapid and consistent measures to meet our demands" if it cared about the hostages.

The communique said the release of David Jacobsen on November 2, had been due to "a U.S. initiative, which if continued will bring about a solution to the hostage affair."

It said news reports that followed Mr Jacobsen's release were a "comedy" aimed at "disarming the peoples of this region (Middle East) in their battle against imperialism".

Islamic Jihad, which is holding at least two of the seven U.S. hostages missing in Lebanon, warned that it would not deviate "one jot" from its (unspecified) demands for the release of the hostages. [passage omitted]

In the communique Islamic Jihad reaffirmed its "execution" on October 4 of U.S. diplomat William Buckley, whom it seized in March 1984 and accused of being Lebanon station chief of the American Central Intelligence Agency.

It said it would "in time" publish "numerous documents written in his hand" and release video cassetes found in his possession, "revealing (U.S). plans to dominate the region and smash the Islamic movement." [passage omitted]

Hizballah's Musawi Meets French Officials

LD171135 Kuwait KUNA in English 1004 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Paris, Nov 17 (KUNA) — Leader of the Lebanese Hizballah Party Husayn Musawi was recently in Paris for talks with French officials, it was reported here Monday.

Without sourcing its information, the *"Le Point"* weekly magazine said Musawi met with ranking officials at the Foreign Ministry.

The report did not indicate when the meeting took place, but it comes a week after the release of two French hostages in Beirut.

News on Musawi's visit to Paris coincides also with attempts by the French Government to normalize relations with Iran.

Hizballah is a hardline pro-Iranian organization centered at the Al-Biqa' valley and southern Lebanon.

Israelis Raid DFLP, Fatah Positions 16 Nov

NC161603 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1549 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] At 1645 today, four Israeli warplanes staged three raids on military positions in (Jabal al-Halib), which is east of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp, Tallat (Sirub) between Al-Miyah Wa Miyah and Maghdushah, and in areas as far as Darb al-Sim. The Israeli planes came under antiaircraft fire. According to initial reports, one person was killed and four others were wounded in the attacks. Our latest information indicates that posts held by the DFLP and Fatah were the targets.

17 Nov Israeli Air Raid on Sidon Reported

Targets Identified

NC171424 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1408 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] With regard to the Israeli raid against southeast Sidon, we can now report that the targeted areas were Darb al-Sim and Jabal al-Hadid in the vicinity of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp. This is the second raid within 24 hours. A squadron of enemy aircraft flew over Sidon at 1550. Two planes fired four rockets at the target area from a high altitude. The rockets were a type that do not make sound. The raid lasted for more than 10 minutes. The planes were met by antiaircraft fire.

Sea Clash Reported

NC171617 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1530 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Palestinian sources told our correspondent in Sidon a short while ago that the recent Israeli air raids follow a clash at sea, which occurred at 0400 on Saturday. The action, which took place off Tyre, involved two rubber dinghies and an Israeli warship. There were a number of enemy casualties in the course of the fighting. The crew of the Zionist warship detained those aboard one of the rubber boats, while the other managed to return to base.

Further Details on Raid

NC171540 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1508 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] According to our latest reports from Sidon, the Israeli raid on 'Ayn al-Hulwah, Al-Miyah Wa Miyah, and Darb al-Sim was the work of four Cobra helicopters, protected by two planes flying at a high altitude, and by gunboats and other warships off Sidon. Security sources note that a rocket fell in the vicinity of the Muhammad Zughayb barracks. The Israeli helicopters are said to have dropped bombs with delayed action fuses on their targets. Tariq and Yusuf Salih were among those wounded in the attack.

The Israeli enemy began his assault at 1550 today.

Spanish Paper Interviews Shi'ite Leader Fadlallah

PM141415 Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 9 Nov 86 p 6

[Interview with Lebanese Shi'ite leader Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah by Tomas Alcoverro in Beirut; date not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Alcoverro] In Iran, Your Grace, a conflict between two political tendencies has emerged. Ayatollah Rafsanjani, with whom, so I understand, you are well acquainted, and who is reputed to be a very influential man in the republic, announced on the 7th anniversary of the occupation of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran the terms for resolving the matters in dispute with the United States and hence the resolution of the issue of the Western hostages in Beirut.

A few days earlier, 15 October, it was announced that Mehdi Hashemi, the son-in-law of Ayatollah Montazeri, who has been chosen to succeed Imam Khomeyni, had been arrested, accused of abductions, arms smuggling, and underground activities.

Since Hashemi was the man in charge of the Islamic movement in the Muslim countries and the leader of the extremist tendency, it was deduced that there could be a change in the international Islamic policy, and that the pragmatic, conciliatory current in favor of an agreement with the United States had prevailed.

Shortly afterward, the announcement of the journey by McFarlane, President Reagan's envoy, to Tehran aboard an aircraft loaded with arms to negotiate with the republic's leaders, hastened events and confirmed these assumptions. How do you assess this important conflict in Iran? [question ends]

Nodding gently and interlocking his fingers, the shaykh replied to me:

[Fadlallah] Hashemi has tried to recover his position and has failed. Ayatollah Rafsanjani is undoubtedly the thinking head of the state. At any event, bear in mind that this conflict of tendencies in the Tehran government has been exaggerated in the West. This conflict will not affect Ayatollah Montazeri's designation as Imam Khomeyni's successor.

[Alcoverro] Do you believe that Iran will improve its relations with the United States?

[Fadlallah] It is possible to establish balanced relations with the Washington administration. Moreover, the U.S. attitude toward Iran has not been rigid, as is, for instance, its stance with respect to the regime of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of Libya. Furthermore, the Islamic Republic attempts to keep itself at an equal distance from the United States and the USSR.

[Alcoverro] Could Hashemi's fall into disgrace influence the Islamic revolutionary movement which the Tehran leaders support in the Muslim countries?

[Fadlallah] You know that Hashemi was the person in charge of directing the policy of the national liberation movements. The fact that there has been a change of leadership does not mean that the institutions which deal with them have ceased to exist. The Iranian movement will continue to struggle against imperialism through the revolution and the state, but in a studied and rational manner.

[Alcoverro] Unfortunately the West frequently does not understand Islam. The issue of the Western hostages in Beirut has exacerbated this attitude of lack of understanding. How do you assess, Your Grace, the issue of the hostages, taking into account the political changes by some governments with respect to the Islamic Republic of Iran? [question ends]

Shaykh Fadlallah, always with a calm voice, with great clarity of expression, and with a teacher's demeanor, continued to reply, without being perturbed for even a second by the explosions in Burj al-Barajinah, so close to his new house. The ambulance sirens did not disturb our relaxed and calm conversation.

[Fadlallah] There is clear hostility toward Islam on the part of the West. Its cause is not the hostages. The Western policy is imperialist; it seeks the political, economic, and cultural exploitation of the Muslim peoples. If there have been postponements and delays in this matter it is because the West has sought to use this issue in order to mobilize its public opinion against the Muslims and against the Arabs by presenting them as if they were terrorists.

The West has not acted with sincerity... However, the Islamic currents have benefited from the issue of the hostages because they have used them as a means of political pressure. This matter has arisen from some specific factors and is not due to a general attitude in the Muslim camp. From an exchange — the exchange of hostages for Islamic activists — it has become an instrument of pressure which could lead to a general policy stance and not just a short-term policy. Iran has sought to pressure the United States with respect to its interests in the Middle East to push it into dialogue from a declared position of strength.

The same thing has happened with France. Through the trump card of the hostages Iran has succeeded in initiating a discussion with the French Government to discuss the pending bilateral issues. Results have already been achieved. This is not yet clear in the case of the United States, but something tangible is being prepared. [answer ends]

I also discussed with the shaykh the need for coexistence between Christians, the endless conflict of the Palestinians in southern Lebanon, and the Iran-Iraq war.

It is a political war, not a national war, Fadlallah said. Its aim is not the conquest of territories but the overthrow of Saddam Husayn Takriti — "the Bokassa," "the Idi Amin" of the Middle East, with whom all the enemies of the Islamic revolution have allied themselves. [passage omitted]

Minister al-Hashim Leaves for Algeria 16 Nov

NC160732 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0645 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Joseph al-Hashim, minister of post and telecommunications, public health, and social affairs, left today for Algeria via Paris on an official mission, accompanied by Muhammad Shuqayr, the president's adviser. Al-Hashim is carrying a message from President Amin al-Jumayyil to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

This morning Minister al-Hashim said that his visit falls within contacts and attempts being made to resolve the Lebanese situation at the local, Arab, and international levels. He added that Algeria enjoys prominent Arab and international standing and has maintained its strong and friendly relations with all Lebanese leaders of various sects and political affiliations.

Christians Reportedly Cutting Food Supplies

NC151943 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Excerpt] The Voice of the Mountain has learned that Amin al-Jumayyil and Ja'ja' have given strict orders to confiscate shipments of wheat and flour arriving at the port of Beirut and to store them in silos. They have also issued instructions not to allow this food to be brought into the nationalist areas [of West Beirut] by truck. This is part of a plan being drafted for use in the near future, as the policy of blackmail and of holding the prime minister and the nationalist ministers responsible for the worsening economy remains in force.

A number of trucks loaded with wheat, flour, and other foodstuffs have indeed been prevented from crossing into West Beirut from the East. [passage omitted]

Palestinians: 2 Amal Men Killed 'By Mistake'

NC152149 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] According to a joint statement issued by the DFLP, the Fatah Revolutionary Council under the leadership of Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], and the Palestinian National Salvation Front's military command in Burj al-Barajinah, the two Amal members of the camps security coordination committee were killed by mistake yesterday when they approached a forward position at the western entrance to the camp.

The Amal Movement has accused the Palestinians of murdering the two men and has demanded that those responsible be publicly punished.

Casualties Reported in Burj al-Barajinah Fighting

NC160731 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Excerpt] The camps war is continuing intermittently. Last night the axes of Burj al-Barajinah camp and the Al-Rashidiyah in the south witnessed intermittent clashes involving artillery, rocket, and machinegun fire. Some sources have said that a number of shells fell last night on areas in the [southern] suburb, particularly Jarat Hurayk and Al-Ruways. Security sources said that yesterday's fighting in the Burj al-Barajinah camp left 6 persons dead and 43 others wounded. According to security sources, 42 persons have been killed and 239 others wounded since the renewal of clashes in the Burj al-Barajinah camp on 29 October. [passage omitted]

New Organization Formed in West Beirut

NC162118 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] A number of West Beirut officials met at the Beau Rivage Hotel this evening with representatives of Syrian intelligence. It was announced afterward that an organization called the Arab Ba'th-Lebanese Nationalist-Nasirite Grouping [Tajammu' al-Ba'th al-'Arabi al-Qawmi al-Lubnani al-Nasiri] had been formed.

Dr Samir Sabbagh will hold a news conference tomorrow to explain the aims of this new body.

Al-Asad Addresses Trade Union Conference

JN161551 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1202 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Speech by President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, at the 21st conference of the General Federation of Trade Unions at the Al-Fayha' Hall in Damascus — live]

[Text] Brother members of the conference and dear guests: I am happy to open your conference today, the conference of the productive and toiling men, the builders of the progressive and socialist society, those who produce material goods and who lay the groundwork for the unified socialist Arab society. The labor class enjoys a prominent status in our people's militant march. Our labor class deserves this status through scores of years of struggle, sweat, efforts, and sacrifices, as well as many martyrs who gained the honor of martyrdom struggling against exploitation and injustice, and defending the homeland against its enemies in Syria and abroad. One can deduce from this fact that the labor class and its trade unions have always been the vanguard of the struggle among classes and the national and pan-Arab struggle. They assumed a pioneering role in the march of our people for the establishment of the progressive and socialist homeland. [applause]

The General Federation of Trade Unions has once again chosen to convene its 21st conference, which begins today, under the slogan "There is No Life in this Country Except for Progress and Socialism" as it did during its 20th conference. By doing so, it adopts a dictum which embodies our people's will and expresses the essence of the struggle of the masses with the workers at their head. Progress is the ambition and goal of those who seek to keep life permeated with offerings and good, and to prevent stagnation which means death, something which is contrary to our will. We want progress to be the law of life in our country as well as for others. Socialism is the means toward progress. It is on an equal footing with justice and struggle and within whose framework progress and advancement are attained. Socialism is also the emblem of an honorable and quiet life for all. Under socialism, there can be no misery, exploitation, injustice, or despotism but rights and obligations for all on an equal footing, work and construction for all, and bountiful benefits to be enjoyed by all. [applause]

If the workers are not the builders of progress and socialism and their protectors, then who would be? The role of the workers in the establishment of a society of progress and socialism and in protecting this society is an essential role which they have enhanced by escalating struggle, doubling efforts, deepening maturity, and achieving better organization. I greet you, builders of the homeland of progress and socialism [applause] and the protectors of this homeland, from the depth of my heart and I warmly welcome the guests of your conference — brothers and friends — to our country which safeguards brotherhood, appreciates friendship and values them. [applause]

Brothers, the 21st conference of the General Federation of Trade Unions convenes following trade union elections, which covered all trade unionist levels and which were held in a democratic atmosphere where the workers chose their representatives in complete freedom. They resorted to conscience and principles and reaffirmed the constancy of the labor class in its choice of the class, national, and pan-Arab struggle. They also reaffirmed the importance of this struggle for building, defending, and enhancing socialism; for protecting socialist achievements; and for defending the homeland and its causes.

It was natural that in these elections the working class renewed its confidence in pioneering trade unionists whom it knew well and in whom it had confidence in previous sessions. It was also natural that the working class placed confidence in new trade unionists who deserved the working class's confidence due to their activity, genuineness, and zeal to work for serving the workers and the homeland, and also due to their commitment to the line of progress and socialism. Among the old and new trade unionists the trade unionist women occupied a position that calls for more optimism over the growing role of the Syrian Arab woman in the trade unionist movement and in the national and pan-Arab struggle in general. [applause]

I warmly congratulate the male and female winners, wishing all of them full success in peforming their trade unionist missions. I tell them that our confidence in them is high and deserves that you exert every effort to maintain this confidence. While I am happy at these results of the trade union elections in general, I am particularly happy at the increasing number of trade unionist women. This development is important because it indicates women's growing activity in public life. It also indicates that we are supplying the homeland with a growing, propelling force which, until recently, was a latent force that did not assume its real dimension and effectiveness in society's activities and in pushing society toward realizing its will. This development also indicates that the society is showing more understanding of the importance of a complete women's role and of women exercising their rights, of which they were long deprived.

I need not repeat what I said on several previous occasions about the great loss suffered by a society whose half is paralyzed or obstructed and also about the great profit obtained by a society that rejects the phenomenon of paralysis and obstruction and that removes such a phenomenon and repairs its effects. Once again, I want to stress my happiness at seeing women occupying leading trade unionist posts. This proves that the woman is qualified to work with and alongside men in all fields of life and on all levels. [applause] I have deep-rooted confidence that this development will assume its full dimension after the Syrian Arab woman has proven her presence in the party leaderships, popular councils, government and administrative bodies, and in all levels of popular organizations, and also after women have joined all fields of work. It is worth mentioning here that not a single woman delegate participated in the 16th conference of the General Federation of Trade Unions in 1970. Two women became members of the 17th conference; three women became members of the 18th conference. At the 19th conference, the figure rose to eight female trade unionist workers. At the 20th conference in 1982 the figure was 43 female trade unionist workers, 7 of whom the conference elected to membership on the General Federation's Council, until their number reached the figure we see at this conference today which calls for great optimism. [applause]

The 21st conference of the General Federation of Trade Unions in Syria constitutes a new advanced station on the road of the working class' struggle, whose trade union is about to be 50 years old. The working class has reached this station through relentless struggle. It will continue its march to reach a more serious and advanced station. The last third of the years of struggle of the working class has been the richest part of its activity and progress. These years, which accompanied the corrective movement in our country, have witnessed unprecedented activity in our country; and organizational, economic, and social activity, which covered the administrative field, popular organizations, agriculture, industry, education, culture, and defense. It is natural that this activity was accompanied by a large growth in the working class and an important expansion of its trade union's activity. The Ba'th Party command's care for the popular organizations helped achieve this activity. These organizations have become pillars of the revolution's march, performing their giant role in our society. Our popular organizations, particularly the General Federation of Trade Unions, the General Federation of Peasants Union, the Revolution Youth Federation, the National Union of Syrian Students, and other popular organizations have proved that they constitute a force on which we can rely to build the homeland, to confront the homeland's inside and outside enemies, and to achieve victory over them. [applause]

The working class' honorable role, alongside the students and peasants throughout the years of struggle against colonialism, feudalism, and exploitation, was reinforced by the workers' stand during recent years and by their brave confrontation of the plots which were hatched by imperialism, Zionism, and reactionary forces. A conference such as the 21st conference, which represents half a million workers who participated in the recent trade union elections, is by all standards an important conference. This importance does not lie in quantity, but also in quality in terms of organization, activity, capability, and strong relations on the international and Arab levels. The developments which occurred in the structure of the working class and its trade union necessitated the issuance of Law Number 29 for 1986, which aimed to put these developments within their legal framework. [applause]

The 20th session of your trade union was rich in its organizational efforts, and its class, national, and pan-Arab struggle. In light of my experience regarding the workers' movement and its conferences, particularly since the 17th conference, I feel confident that every session of the General Federation of Trade Union's sessions will reinforce the previous achievements, entrench the bases of the trade union's activity, and strengthen the working class' trade unions ability to continue struggle. Our party command's confidence — the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party [applause] — in the efforts of the working class and its trade union is a great confidence, its assessment of the trade unionists is a high one, and its belief in the General Federation of Trade Unions' ability to remove all obstacles in the field of trade unions activity is a great belief.

Brother members of the conference, your prestigious position in our society, in the country's leadership, and in the constitutional establishments and productive centers is your right and one of your achivements which you realized after a long struggle and great sacrifices. This position will be further entrenched and expanded as we expand our steps on the path to realize our great aims. [applause]

I have carefully read the documents of your conference and the discussions that were conducted in the preliminary meetings. I have sensed from them your great political, economic, and social awareness and your great sense of responsibility, which is part of the great responsibilities of your country in the big pan-Arab battle which your country is waging in defense of its principles and the Arab nation's dignity, pride, land, and rights. You have accurately understood the progressive transformation in our country and the development it necessitated in the trade union movement and struggle. This is an important introduction to further work to strengthen trade union organizations in the political, economic, and social life, especially in the field of production and improving the economy and its effectiveness in ensuring people's needs and those of the Armed Forces. [applause]

While it is true that the trade unions played a role in the productive centers and contributed toward solving many production- related problems, their role should develop and their production should increase. They should be effective in solving problems that crop up with each phase of the economic construction in our country. The trade unionists should be a model in both work and production. You are producing for yourselves, your brothers, your sons, your people, and your country. The larger the production the better its quality, and the less it costs the better this will be in terms of your living conditions and those of your families and people. You possess the factories and the establishments which were built by your effort, your sweat, and your sacrifices, and you are qualified to develop their work and production. Nothing will hinder your creative initiatives. [applause]

Brothers, the economic situation and the living conditions took a great part of your discussions and documents. This is only natural. Your care to promote your country's economy and to improve the living conditions was apparent in your documents. This was clear in the proposals that were made and the discussions which took place in your preliminary meetings. We must work to protect and develope our economy and to improve the living conditions of our people within the framework of long-term planning. We do have economic difficulties but we do not have an economic crisis that is difficult to resolve. This should be made clear to every one of us because over the past years, we have fought a big battle for development despite all the difficulties that we faced and which we are facing, and despite the circumstances of the battle imposed on us by Israel and its allies.

We now have a productive industrial foundation. We have a productive agricultural foundation. We also have a broad network of services, and, before anything else, we have a productive and industrious people. [applause] We have a mature labor class and peasants who extract wealths from the ground to put them at the citizens' disposal. The public sector is carrying out its vanguard role in the economy alongside the private and mixed sectors which are also carrying out their role in our economic plans and policies. In spite of the burdens it shoulders, our economy is far better than the economies of many neighbor and developing countries. By increasing our efforts, work, and the exploitation of the reserve potentialities that are available in all branches of the economy, we can enhance our economy, consolidate it, and make it more suited for the fulfillment of the society's needs in all fields.

The economic difficulties we are experiencing stem from the state of affairs that we consume more than we produce despite the fact that we have a broad productive foundation. The relationship between these two aspects of the economy should be corrected so that the two aspects of this equation become balanced as a first stage in the process of making production outstrip consumption. In the operation of achieving a balance between production and consumption, we should proceed simultaneously along two parallel lines: an increase in production and a decrease in consumption. These two lines have their own integrated programs and plans.

Brother workers, you are the primary party that is concerned with the study of these plans and programs. I am here not to propose plans or programs. However, I find it appropriate to put forth some remarks which should be taken into consideration as long as we wish to confront these difficulties and overcome them, and to proceed along the march toward further development and the betterment of our people's living conditions. In the sphere of increasing production, we should search for available raw materials or those that can be found in our country, and use part or all of them to replace the raw materials we purchase from abroad, whether in industry, agriculture, services, or the other sectors. If we give this matter the importance it deserves, we would achieve great gains and surpluses, and get rid of many of the bottlenecks in raw materials which periodically take place in this or that establishment. It is worth mentioning here that within the framework of the operation of increasing production, improving its quality, and reducing production costs, one can rationalize the consumption of imported raw materials.

2. [as heard] We must intensify our efforts to exploit and increase the exploitation of our national mineral resources, particularly those resources which studies, experiments, and explorations have proven the existence of, such as phosphates, oil, asphalt, diamonds, and others. [applause] Perhaps this is the first time we have discussed the discovery of diamonds in our country. The brother trade unionists know that diamonds have been discovered by the competent authority, and that experiments are being conducted on their production. [applause] As the comrade technicians told us, diamonds are found in large areas and supposedly in large quantities. [applause] Here I say that we are now extracting some of these resources, and we have begun to study the production of other resources. However, we began very slowly and are still creeping like the turtle. Therefore, we must surpass the stage of creeping to reach the stage of running.

3. In serving our society, we must encourage individual and collective initiatives in all fields, especially in the field of industry machines and spare parts — for which we spend millions in hard currency to import — taking into consideration that through local initiatives and measures in the factories and institutionswe can make a large number of these machines and spare parts. It is true that there are creative initiatives in this field in some factories and institutions. I thank and greet those who are behind these initiatives; however, these initiatives are insufficient. It is necessary to expand our experiments and initiatives, to generalize them, and to exchange expertise among the institutions in order to achieve the best possible results.

4. We must exploit the machine as much as possible in all factories, institutions, and farms whether they belong to the private or public sectors. If some institutions and factories occasionally face obstacles which prevent this, most of our institutions and factories do not get the maximum and possible capacity although those officials and workers in them have nothing to justify this [sentence as heard].

5. We must exploit time, which is the most serious element in waste. Wasted time is a problem which we must overcome. We must work seriously during our duty hours. We must benefit from our work hours in our factories, institutions, fields, and offices. Discipline in our work, the abidance by duty hours, and the disposal of wasting time are required. They have a great effect on the total production process and on work in departments and institutions. We must intensify efforts to stop this waste.

In the field of consumption, we must rationalize our expenditures, particularly those pertaining to field administration and services which do not increase production but decrease it and increase its costs, especially that consumption which constitutes a kind of waste: beginning with the office whose costs most often exceed the work needs [applause] and ending with the fuel which is used in work and which exceeds the production needs [applause], including the waste of raw materials and the utility services which are used in the production process.

Naturally, this requires details in terms of the specific plan or program. Private consumption, which we must know how to cut down and take care of, requires the cooperation of all citizens; otherwise, we will not realize our aims. The problem is an economic, moral, and national one. Will we succumb to difficulties and allow them to aggravate and thus weaken our country, submit to our enemies' plotting, lose our freedom and will, and face the subsequent threats to our destiny, or confront these difficulties, cut them down to size, and reduce them until they are completely gone and then continue our march while preserving our dignity, health, and national pride? Will we accept to sacrifice the dignity, interests, freedom, and long-term targets for the sake of some of our needs, or will we sacrifice some of our needs for the sake of our country's dignity, freedom, and long-and short-term interests? [applause]

Brother workers, brother citizens: I am sure everyone of you is prepared to sacrifice most of his needs when the country's interests demand this [applause] because the people who offer blood for the homeland are prepared to offer what is much cheaper than blood. As these people proved their readiness to court martyrdom when the nation called for it, they will also prove that they are ready to forego many of their needs — nay — all their needs when the country demands this. [applause]

Economic difficulties are now facing all the world's states despite the fact that they are not in a state of war, face an enemy like the one we are facing, or shoulder responsibilities similar to the ones we are shouldering. These countries adopted their special measures which, in many cases, were harsh. On 8 March of this year, I told the sixth peasant conference that our enemies — the aggressors, and the rapacious ones who came from all over the world to occupy our land and to fight us and to live a frugal, harsh life in addition to committing murders and bloodshed — must know that because our land is being exposed to invasion and colonization and because our future is exposed to danger we would bear all kinds of difficulties and would offer sacrifices and blood; that they should know that our people are more capable than they are in bearing all this because our people are shouldering their rights and their fate. [applause, slogans in support of socialism, progress as well as strategic parity with Israel]

We know that our enemy Israel — which is receiving billions of dollars from the United States, the world Zionist movement, and from several West European states — is suffering from well-known economic crises. In tackling these crises the Israeli enemy was compelled to adopt very harsh measures, such as repeated price increases, repeated currency devaluation, and dismissing thousands of workers, as well as other measures. I do not mention this so that we emulate our enemy or other states, but merely to remind you of what is happening around us and away from us despite the different circumstances and the burden which we are shouldering and which other countries — which I have mentioned — are shouldering.

In the past I have talked at the People's Assembly about some of the reasons for our economic difficulties; they are both objective and subjective. Although it may not be necessary now to elaborate on the causes, I believe it is useful to say that among the most important of these causes is the world economic crisis whose effect on the economy of developing countries, including our country, is unavoidable. The increase in population is also one of the reasons. We were approximately 6 million people in 1970, while now we are more than 12 million. There is no doubt that the industrial, agricultural, cultural, and services base has accompanied the population increase. However, production in the past few years has fallen short and failed to accompany the increase in population. There are reasons for this and there is no need to go into them now. It is production and the pillars of production that are the focus of our attention now, and the principal part of the economic debate is on them.

There are also the burdens of confrontation. In the confrontation with Israel we have no choice. Facing us is a racist and aggressor Zionist entity that seeks to establish greater Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates. It is a threat that faces us every day. It defies us and looks forward to swallowing up our land and enslaving our people. We must confront it and prevent it from achieving its objectives.

The rulers of Israel who talk about peace have sought and are tirelessly seeking to expand in Arab territory. It suffices to glance at a map of the partition of Palestine, a map of Palestine and the region in 1948, and at a current map of the region in order to conclude that the talk by Israeli leaders about a biblical Israel extending from the Nile to Euphrates — which their God Jehovah gave to the people of Israel as they claim — is talk about a plan for which world Zionism has harnessed all of its strength and influence, and to which U.S. imperialism has given its political, military, financial, and moral support so that it can be implemented within the framework of the overall U.S. strategy to dominate our region and our Arab homeland.

In the face of the Israeli plan to establish a biblical Israel on Arab land, we have no other choice but to confront Israel and shoulder the burdens and sacrifices this defensive position requires. This is the great national [qawmiyah] battle that we are waging in defense of the Arab nation, the Arab homeland, and the Arab future.

There are also the economic pressures exerted on us. They are part of the tactics of neocolonialism and one of its means. In confronting the designs of imperialism and Israel we are subjected to economic pressure in addition to other forms of pressure and threats. They tried that kind of pressure on Egypt during the time of Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir and they failed. [applause] Failure will also be waiting for them in Syria [applause] because our people who defend our country and who are the masters of our national decisions will only become more determined by these pressures to resist.

We are certainly capable of overcoming the present economic difficulties. We shall overcome them with our own capabilities, with our work, our efforts, and our awareness of the consequences of the battle we are waging, relying on a firm agricultural, industrial, and services base, and on a solid cultural and political ground, and on an unshakable belief in our ability to achieve victory in the face of all challenges, including economic challenges. [applause]

Brothers, the battle of construction and liberation is long and complex. We are determined through our will, our work, efforts, and capabilities to achieve victory in the battle. Our decision is to be victorious in the battle of construction and the battle of liberation. Our decision does not please the imperialist powers which — despite their successive historical defeats — are still dreaming of turning back the wheel of development in the world. Therefore, they are now directing their terrorism against us, unleashing a psychological war against us, and dealing with us with their historical imperialist rancor.

The old terrorists whose hands are stained with the blood of the peoples of the world want to brand those who are struggling for the emancipation of peoples, their progress, security, and safety with the stigma of terrorism. We are against terrorism: we have said this in the past and we say it today. However, terrorism is one thing and national struggle against occupation is another. We are against terrorism: We do not practise it and we do not allow anyone to practise terrorism from our country, but we support struggle against occupation, we support the national liberation fronts of peoples. That is a principled stand from which we will never deviate. [applause, chants: "We do not accept terrorism, Zionism is the monster of the jungle"; "U.S. is terrorist"; and "we will not remain silent on reactionaries."]

They want to terrorize us with their terrorism. They want to depict every action against the aggressor Israel which occupies Arab territory, expropriate's the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people, and occupies part of Lebanese territory as terrorism. Their false stand on terrorism becomes clear in their stand on Israel's terrorism, which for Israel is a state policy. They raise a hue and cry at any small matter that is connected with Israel. They remain silent on Israel's terrorism even when it violates their sovereignty and the laws of their territory. A few days ago the Israeli intelligence service kidnapped the Israeli nuclear technician — as they called him — Mordechay Vanunu from the heart of the British capital, London, and transferred him to Israel, after having exposed the secrets of nuclear production in Israel. However, the Thatcher government did not raise a furor. It did not raise a single word of protest rejecting terrorism and championing Britain's sovereignty and laws that have been violated.

In 1984, the Israeli intelligence service tried to kidnap former Nigeria Minister Umaru Dikko in the heart of London using three of their agents. They dragged the man from his house in broad daylight, drugged him, and placed him in a wooden trunk on which they wrote: diplomatic pouch. The operation was busted but the issue was covered. Thatcher's government did not swear at Israel and did not protest against terrorism and the violation of human dignity by the most hideous means on British soil and in the British capital. Those who today raise the banner of fighting terrorism in defense of Israel are intentionally ignoring the fact that it was Israel which began mass and individual terrorism in the Middle East. The greatest terrorist operation witnessed by humanity in contemporary history is the expulsion of millions of Palestinians from their houses and lands over many years.

Of Israel's terrorism against an individual was the assassination of the Palestinian writer Ghassan Kanafani in Beirut in 1972 by placing explosives in his car. Here I mention some examples in order that Thatcher and Reagan might hear them. They hate... [changes thought] if they go back to their records, they will find these examples but they hate to hear them. However, we must tell them what they hate to hear. [applause] They assassinated Wa'il Zu'aytir in Rome in 1972 by opening fire on him. They assassinated Mahmud al-Hamshari in Paris in 1972 by placing an explosive device in the telephone at his home. In 1973, they assassinated Husayn Abu al-Khayr in Cyprus by placing an explosive device under his hotel bed. They assassinated Basim Qubaysi in Paris in 1973 by shooting him down. They also assassinated Muhammad (Boudia) in Paris in 1973 by placing explosives in his car in the Latin Quarter. They assassinated Moroccan laborer (Boucheki) in Oslo, the capital of Norway, because they suspected he was a Palestinian struggler. They assassinated Egyptian nuclear scientist Yahya al-Mashadd in Paris.

These terrorist murders were committed by Israeli official and government agencies. However, the gladiators of the false campaign against terrorism in London and Washington did not bat an eye. They did not bat an eye when Israel committed acts of piracy in the United States itself. In 1968, Israel stole 200 pounds of enriched uranium from the U.S. nuclear reactor in the city of Apollo, in the state of Pennsylvania. U.S. intelligence admitted that the uranium reached Israel. It stole the secrets of the U.S. Defense Department through the spy Pollard and stole the secrets of Congress and the Defense Department through agent Stephen Bryen who was given an important post in the Defense Department following his exposure as a spy for Israel. Israel stole 810 pieces of the electronic (Kryton) timers which are used for accurate timing in nuclear explosions and transferred them from the United States to Israel. George Carver, a former senior CIA official, says official U.S. secrets are leaked quickly and in broad daylight to the Israeli Embassy in Washington.

The U.S. rulers were unperturbed by the pro-Israeli elements committing murders against the Arab Americans and their centers on U.S. soil. They killed Alex Odeh and blew up the headquarters of the Arab-American antiracial discrimination committee in the United States. Twice they tried to kill the American journalist of Syrian origin Mustafa al-Dabbas, proprietor of the newspaper *Al-Rayah* of Philadelphia. They ransacked his offices and press three times.

All of these crimes did not prompt the false knights of the campaign on combatting terrorism to accuse Israel of terrorism, or to call for severing diplomatic relations with Israel. Their zeal against terrorism and anxiety over it were not manifested even when Israel stole 200 tons of uranium in November 1969 which were shipped aboard a West German ship from a Belgian port to an Italian port and commissioned by the EEC. Their zeal against terrorism was also not manifested by the fact that Israel was the first party to introduce the method for hijacking planes to the Middle East and the first to shoot down civilian planes, killing more than 100 passengers. As for the crimes of collective terrorism and mass extermination, Israel's record is replete with such crimes in Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Tunisia, Jordan, and other countries. One would take days to enumerate these crimes. The Israeli intelligence services did not hesitate in throwing explosives on Jewish synagogues and Jewishgathering places. This took place in Baghdad in 1950 and 1951.

I mention all of this to show that the end justifies the means for the Israelis. Israel committed many massacres against the Jews in many countries. Many books discuss this issue. Israel did this to make the Jews immigrate to Palestine, or to stigmatize this or that individual, this or that country with the accusation of killing the Jews in order to achieve a political objective it had planned. This makes us conclude with confidence that it was Israel that planned the bombing of the Israeli El Al plane, and that planned and drew up a scenario so that the attempt would stop prior to the actual blowing up of the plane — and that is what happened. An Israeli journalist said in an Israeli newspaper in 1977 that Mordekhay Ben-Porat, one of the most prominent Labor Party's politicians, was the one who directly organized Israeli terrorist operations against the Iraqi Jews in 1950 and 1951. Another Israeli journalist also confirmed the occurence of these terrorist operations in the Black Panthers newspaper in 1972.

The colonialists, the allies of Israel, who wish to revive their black and treacherous days in our region resort to the issue of combatting terrorism as a means to put pressure on the strugglers for freedom, progress, and peace. When they dream and plan to turn the clock back, we should reopen the file of their black record. In its biased and provocative stand, the British Government is driven by a historical rancor against the Arab nation. Britain's black history with the Arab nation is well known. Britain has betrayed its pledges and welched on its promises. Instead of helping the Arabs to win their freedom — after World War I as we all know — it enslaved them and helped others to enslave them. Instead of helping them to achieve their national unity, or at least leave them as they were, it divided their homeland and created artificial borders between parts of the same homeland. Not content with this, it divided the homeland into many parts. Under the Ottoman colonialism, there was some kind of Arab unity. But they came and divided. Historically, Syria once included the land extending from the Taurus mountains to Gaza. The British came and divided Syria. We now see that historical Syria has become many states or statelets. This is what Britain has done.

Who does not remember the McMahon letters, the Balfour Declaration, and Britain's role in the establishment of the racist Zionist entity in Palestine? Who of us has not heard of the British fleet's bombardment of Alexandria in 1882 on the pretext that the Egyptians were restoring the port's walls? Who of us does not remember the incident at Dinshiway, that small Egyptian village: A British officer died of a sunstroke so they crushed the villagers of Dinshiway on the charge that they were responsible for the British officer's death. The terrible thing was the crushing of the villagers by shooting, hanging, and imprisoning them. For many years our brothers in Egypt commemorated the Dinshiway incident.

History also records Britain's crime in demolishing the Egyptian village of Kafr 'Abduh over its inhabitants, making thousands homeless while others died under the rubble. History records the massacre perpetrated by Britain in Ismailiya in 1952, which claimed the lives of hundreds of Egyptians and the massacres perpetrated by the British in Iraq, the Gulf countries, Yemen, Sudan, many African countries, India, and other Asian countries. Many volumes are needed to record such massacres. Above all we must not forget that Britain divided our homeland into statelets, betrayed us, and handed Palestine over to the Zionist Jews.

It is an irony that the London government should raise the banner of combatting terrorism to cover up the shameful role it is carrying out against the Syrian people and the Arab nation, and against the steadfastness of this people to implement the orders of its masters in Washington. Everyone knows that the London government has turned Britain into a small dummy, a small satellite that rotates in the U.S. orbit. It cannot and does not want to be free of that shackle.

Britain was not content with declaring its hostility toward us, but sought to incite European states against us, thus embodying the most contemptible form of rancor and an imperialist behavior that was customary in the era of colonialism when there were calls for blocs and alliances to commit aggression against others. Britain was always accustomed to embroiling others with it — as it did in the aggression against Egypt in 1956. If the London government is not inspired by its imperialist heritage why then call on Europe to adopt its stand? Europe is a group of nations and not one nation with various languages and with each nation having its own history and interests. These nations are linked only by being European, just as we and all the other countries of Asia are linked by being countries on the Asian continent.

Nevertheless, many European officials understand the true situation and were not totally pushed into what the London government wants. We appreciate the stand of several European officials who attended and were represented at the London conference. We thank them. Although, we are surprised and cannot understand how they went along with the Thatcher government as far as adopting the communique issued, regardless of its contents, because they were anxious to preserve European solidarity.

On behalf of all of you I thank the Greek people and Government [applause, chants: "The United States and Britain are bastions for international terrorism"] for the principled, noble stands it adopted in the EC meetings in Luxembourg and London. The stand adopted by Mr Andreas Papandreou and his aides was commensurate with the true and ancient Greek tradition. Their stand was sincere in fighting terrorism, true to the tradition of the greak Greek people from among whom the great philosphers came: Socrates, Aristotle, and Plato, who gave humanity one of the greatest civilizations. The people of Syria and the Arab nation will appreciate this principled stand and its signficance of struggle. We salute Mr Papandreou and the Greek leadership. [applause]

Questions arise in quick succession: Why does the United States seek to incite everyone? Why does the United States insist on carrying out the role of the international policeman? Why does the United States insist on being hostile to the Arabs represented by the Syrian people? Why does it insist on exacerbating tension in the international climate? Does the interest of the American people lie behind all that? It is difficult to analyze all such matters in such a situation. I shall directly answer and say: Behind all that lies Zionist Judaism and its interests. Is it logical that the U.S. Administration accuses us of terrorism while it is a master of terrorism? Can he who invaded Grenada, the small, secure country,with fleets and aircraft, removed its government, killed or imprisoned [its people], and occupied the country, preventing any voice to come out of it, and formed the government he pleased and retained it in his grip — can anyone who did this accuse Syria of terrorism?

Can anyone who committed aggression against Libya, the leader of a superpower, send his aircraft from thousands of kilometers away loaded with thousands of tons of bombs to bombard the home of a head of state to kill him, his wife, and children? Can anyone who did this accuse Syria of terrorism?

Can the hijackers of the Egyptian plane and those who vetoed the condemnation of Israeli air piracy and the hijacking of the Libyan plane accuse Syria of terrorism?

Can anyone who arms Nicaraguan citizens so that they attack their country from abroad and kill their citizens accuse Syria of terrorism?

Can those who killed thousands, indeed hundreds of thousands and perhaps millions of the Vietnamese people accuse Syria of terrorism?

Can anyone who extends all assistance to Israel so that it will kill people and make them homeless, destroy houses in villages and cities, make the Palestinian people homeless during the past years, make the Lebanese people homeless, and kill women and children, can they be anything but terrorists? Can a terrorist of this kind who has attained the height of terrorism and its ugliest form in this age accuse Syria of terrorism?

It appears that U.S. officials, it appears that the U.S. administration did not hear the saying people who live in glass houses should not throw stones at others. [applause] The terrorism about which they are talking is not the real reason for their moves. They know that we are struggling for our freedom and for liberating our land in Syria, Palestine, and Lebanon — all Arab land. They know that we do not practice terrorism. They want us to capitulate, but the distance between us and capitulation is further than the distance that separates them from the remotest planets which their spaceships have not reached and will not reach — if they do reach them at all — except after scores of years. [applause] There is no doubt that they are extremely mad if they imagine that we will capitulate after all their experience with us.

During my visit to Greece, as you know — and there was no terrorism campaign against Syria at the time — I proposed that an international committee be set up to define terrorism and terrorist actions, and to draw up bases for combatting terrorism. I declared the readiness of Syria and the Arabs to cooperate with such a committee. [applause]

Why didn't the knights of combatting terrorism in Washington and London support and adopt the proposal? Because they did not want to combat terrorism. Indeed, they do not want to prevent terrorism. Had the committee been set up and had it drawn up bases for combatting terrorism, and precisely defined terrorist actions, they would have been deprived of much of the fun they enjoy in killing peoples and killing strugglers everywhere. They do not want to combat terrorism, but they want to combat and kill the spirit of resistance to Israeli occupation. They want to kill the spirit of struggle for liberation in us, we the Arabs in particular, and in every people who want to build an independent life in accordance with their free will and aspirations in general. [They are pursuing] a road that is firmly blocked, with strength and determination. They should waste their time and effort on other roads and for other objectives.

Despite all the deception and falsification that had happened out of our sense of responsibility and self-confidence, and from a position of strength and of challenge to them in both London and Washington, and in view of Syria's historical role, I propose the idea of forming an international committee which could be an Arab-European, or a European-Arab-American-Soviet committee, or in any other form whose task is to define the meaning of terrorism and the lines separating terrorism and the peoples' struggle for their causes and liberating their territories. Syria is prepared to discuss this idea in further detail and to present its ideas and the formulas which it finds fit to this effect. [applause] That is the challenge which we put to the others. It will separate the terrorist from the non-terrorist, and the supporter of terrorism from he who does not support terrorism.

As for those who believe that they can frighten or terrorize us, their eyes and hearts have become blind. [applause, chants] Syria the bearer of the pan-Arab [qawmiyah] mission, Syria the heart of the Arabs and Islam, Syria the heir of the glory of the Umayyads who took the Arab and Muslim civilization to the furthest corners of the globe is not frightened or terrorized. [applause] If it wants to, it is Syria that frightens and terrorizes. [applause] He who extends a hand toward us in goodwill we will extend to him a hand in goodwill [applause]: and he who extends to us an evil hand we extend to him a knife that will cut off the evil. [applause, chants] They threaten us with aggression believing this can make us sever our connection with our sons and brothers struggling in Lebanon and Palestine. [applause] It is appropriate in such circumstances to reiterate a simple fact; namely, every inch of Lebanese territory is exactly the same as every inch in Syria [applause]; every inch of Palestinian territory is exactly the same as every inch in Syria. [applause] Our feeling toward the displaced Palestinian is exactly the same as our feeling toward the displaced Syrian. [applause] Our feeling toward the woman in southern Lebanon, in Al-Biqa', and throughout Lebanon who is killed by the Israelis is exactly the same as our feeling toward the Syrian woman who has been killed or could be killed by the Israelis. [applause]

Our victory in Beirut, Sidon, or in any other Lebanese or Palestinian city is exactly like our victory in Damascus. [applause] We are one people from one nation. That is how God created us. That is history and geography. [applause] Reagan, Thatcher, or Israel will not be able to obliterate such a fact. No one must doubt for a moment that our stand will continue to be that we will strongly support all strugglers in Lebanon and in Palestine, and we will continue — now and forever — to support every wronged person in the world and every just cause. [applause] Let Thatcher and her master understand this well. The time has gone forever when colonialists used to decide destinies in our region and what path they should take. The time has gone forever when the colonialists had the power to suppress and crush the will of peoples. [passage omitted]

No will can be stronger than the will of our masses in this nation. History and geography in this land will be written and drawn by our masses — our workers, peasants, intellectuals, and Armed Forces. The unjust, false, and fabricated campaigns against us in the name of combatting terrorism are terrorism itself. Indeed, these are the most hideous forms of terrorism. They want to conquer us, confiscate our decisions, prevent us from voicing our desires, and prevent us from exercising our right to liberate our usurped land and restore our rights. But our will will not be conquered. We will not submit or be subdued. We will not sell out our dignity. We will not abandon our position of struggle at all.

Brothers, we are looking forward to establishing good relations with all states on the basis of mutual respect, noninterference in internal affairs, mutual benefit, and the endeavors to rectify international relations, preserve world peace, curb the arms race and ward off a nuclear disaster. Our principles in international relations are based on the stands of states toward our pan-Arab causes.

International relations have been further complicated following the failure of the Reykjavik meeting as a result of the U.S. attitude. The clouds of tension are appearing in the skies of the world. Therefore, we call on all peaceloving forces to stop the nuclear arms race, ward off the danger of a nuclear disaster, and prevent the transfer of weapons of mass destruction to outer space. We also welcome the USSR's proposal and initiatives to save humanity from the nuclear destruction and realize international detente. We support these Soviet proposals and find them to be a way out of the present impasse in international relations that respects and ensures the interests of all sides concerned.

Brothers, we are unionists. We look forward to comprehensive Arab unity as a pan-Arab aim. We will never abandon this aim. If unity is difficult to attain because of reasons that are outside our will, we look forward to genuine Arab solidarity. We worked and will continue to work for an Arab solidarity based on struggle against the Zionist danger that overwhelms the Arab homeland and against the imperialist attempts to contain the region and spread the U.S. umbrella over it. Our hand is extended to every Arab hand working for Arab solidarity that would unify our efforts and pool the great Arab resources in the fateful battle against Israel and imperialism, which extends to it the means of aggression, expansion, and occupation.

We support a just peace in the region within the UN framework and in accordance with UN Charter and resolutions, a peace which would restore the occupied land to its owners and give legitimate rights to those whose rights were usurped. The U.S. military, financial, economic, and political assistance to Israel, including sophisticated weapons and advanced technology as well as billions of dollars, makes the realization of peace in the Middle East very difficult. Israel, which feels that it is the stronger state cannot resort to peace. And in view of the threats against us posed by the Israeli plans of expansion and the U.S. plans of domination, we cannot but continue strengthening our defensive capabilities and our persevering efforts to realize strategic parity [with Israel]. [applause] The main obstacles to realizing a just peace in our region are the Israeli aggressive, expansionist ambitions, the Zionist Jewish domination over the U.S. decision-making, and the U.S. interests in the Middle East. The Zionist hegemony in the United States makes Israel capable of exhausting the American people's resources and swallowing hundreds of millions of dollars from the U.S. tax payers despite the fact that in the United States itself, more than 30 million U.S. citizens are living below the poverty line in accordance with official statistics.

Our struggling masses are determined to stand fast in the fateful battle, the battle to protect the Arab presence and future, the battle to liberate occupied Arab territory and usurped Arab rights. And because the Arabs' dignity is connected with Syria's stand and steadfastness, and because future Arab history is tied to the stand and steadfastness of the Syrian masses, we will endeavor to strengthen ourselves. Regardless of the role of the weapons, we will continue to believe that the more important and sharper weapon is man's will. No one can conquer the will of a man who is determined and who believes in his cause. [applause] Our will is strong, our conviction is deep, our decision is victory, our path is martyrdom, our model is the martyr, and our motto is: Martyrdom or victory. [applause] We are strong by our will and determination, by the solidarity of the nation's masses by the support of the forces of progress, freedom, and peace in the world. We are strong by our internal front, by our national unity, by our Progressive National Front, and by our brave Armed Forces. [applause] We are strong by our friends in the socialist countries led by the Soviet Union. [applause, chants] We are strong by the mutual support between us and the movements of freedom and liberation throughout the world. We are strong by the mutual support between us and all Arab strugglers led by the strugglers on the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas. [applause] We affirm our support for the strugglers in these two arenas and reiterate our permanent support for them. We are with them in entrenching the Syrian-Lebanese nationalist- Palestinian alliance to the extent they wish. [applause]

From this conference, I send greetings of love, appreciation, and trust to our Armed Forces, to the soldiers, NCO's and officers on the lines of confrontation with the enemy [applause] and at the positions from which they defend the homeland, its achievements, and its pan-Arab role and I tell them that the nation's eyes are looking with hope, love, and trust to the Army of the October war of liberation, the hope of the nation. [applause]

Sons of our Armed Forces, you possess an important, strong, and effective weapon. You must use it very well. You must possess it and master it. You have proved that there is no contradiction or incompatibility between the Arab and advanced technology. Yet, the soldier who uses the weapon is more important than the weapon. You are our stronger weapons. Bear in your mind and learn by heart that there will be no movement in facing the enemy except in the forward direction. There is no retreat in facing the enemy. [applause] He who retreats before the enemy is a traitor and he must die. You are the pioneering and armed section of our people. You hold a trust handed to you by the nation. Behind you are our masses giving you more fighters as well as moral and material support. The hearts of the entire nation are with you. An army that defends a just cause, that possesses a strong, effective weapon, and that is supported by its masses and nation is a victorious army. [applause]

Greetings to every Lebanese struggler [applause], to every Palestinian struggler [applause], to our friends in the socialist states [applause], to our friends in the nonaligned countries. We will continue to support our people in Lebanon until they triumph. [applause] We will continue to support our people in Palestine until they triumph [applause] and will continue to fight injustice everywhere until it is defeated. [applause] I greet you and wish you success in your deliberations. [applause]

Rif'at al-Asad Reacts to U.S. Sanctions

JN151230 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] The official spokesman of Syrian Vice President Dr Rif'at al-Asad has said the Syrian vice president considers the U.S. stand against Syria, which in effect means the severing of relations, a provocative stand, affirming the real intentions of the Reagan administration toward the Arabs and Syria in particular. The spokesman added that the vice president believes that Syria, without which peace cannot be realized in the region, is strong, is determined to face any hostile stand regardless of its source, and is confident of the solidarity of the Arab brethren with it and of its friends' support for it in its confrontation of the fierce plot to which it is being subjected.

IDF Spokesman Announces Air Strike 16 Nov

TA161705 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Air Force planes this afternoon attacked a terrorist base near Sidon. All our planes returned safely. The IDF spokesman reports that the pilots reported accurate hits on the targets.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the target that was attacked served as a naval terrorist base for purposes of training and launching attacks. News agencies report that four people were wounded.

17 Nov Air Raid Confirmed

TA171508 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] The IDF spokesman reports that Air Force assault helicopters have attacked terrorist objectives south of Sidon. All the helicopters returned safely, and their pilots reported accurate hits.

Lebanese radio stations report that two Air Force fighter aircraft and helicopters attacked the targets in the Sidon area this afternoon. Reports picked up by our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus said that a building in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah that served as a headquarters for the terrorist organization called the Popular Struggle Front was hit. No reports have yet come in on the number of casualties, but it has been reported that ambulances were spotted rushing to the scene of the area.

AP has also reported that our helicopters attacked bases manned by 'Arafat's men near the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camps. Acccording to the reports, the terrorists fired antiaircraft missiles but missed.

Student Killed in Jerusalem; 3 Suspects Arrested

TA151950 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Excerpt] A 22-year-old yeshiva student from Jerusalem was murdered this afternoon in the Old City of Jerusalem. The victim was attacked by three Arab youths while walking on his own in one of the alleys. Reinforced police and border police units that were immediately summoned to the scene succeeded in arresting the three youths a short while later. The police say that they have confessed to the crime.

In these pictures we see yeshiva students trying to resuscitate the victim until a Magen David Adom medical team arrived on the scene. Unfortunately, all the efforts were to no avail and the student died. In the last picture one of the three suspects in the murder is seen lying wounded on the floor of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. He was apparently stabbed by one of his friends for some yet unknown reason. He received medical treatment on the spot. [passage omitted]

Murder Attributed to PFLP

TA161220 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Report by Steve Weizman]

[Excerpt] This morning's meeting of the government opened with a report by Acting Police Minister Yiga'el Hurwitz on yesterday's killing of yeshiva student Eliyahu 'Amadi in Jerusalem's Old City. Describing the report, Cabinet Secretary Eli Rubinstein said that despite claims of responsibility by the PLO's Force 17, the government sees the attack as the work of George Habash's PFLP terror group.

[Begin Rubinstein recording] It was a George Habash faction murder as far as we understand. The suspects were two brothers and another one, all of them probably from the Janin area, and they attacked the late 'Amadi, and he tried to defend himself and that is how one of them was wounded. Unfortunately it was in vain and he was murdered. The Border Police that was on a different mission in the area did, as you know, arrest the three, and one of them, the one who was wounded, is in the hospital. [end recording] [passage omitted]

City Quiet Following Violence After Stabbing

TA160632 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Quiet now prevails in the Old City of Jerusalem. Beefed-up police and Border Police forces are continuing to patrol the eastern parts of the city, particularly the Muslim Quarter, to prevent Jews from retaliating for the murder of Yeshiva student Eliyahu 'Amadi. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that last night a shop near the cite of the stabbing was set on fire. During Eliyahu 'Amadi's funeral ceremony, vehicles belonging to Arabs that were parked along the funeral route were damaged, and shop windows were smashed. An Arab truck driver was attacked near Gethsemane. A Molotov cocktail was thrown at a tractor, and a municipality sewer truck was set ablaze near the Intercontinental Hotel. An Arab resident was also wounded this morning near Jaffa Gate and was evacuated to the hospital. His assailant, a Jew, has been detained. The Jerusalem Police have detained another person suspected of having participated in the scuffles.

The late Eliyahu 'Amadi was brought to burial on the Mt of Olives early this morning. With the family's consent and the approval of the police and the Burial Society, it was decided to hold the funeral at such an early hour due to the great tension. The funeral procession departed from the site of the murder not far from the Western Wall, via Damascus Gate to the Mt of Olives.

Three Arabs suspected of having perpetrated the murder were captured yesterday after a pursuit. One of them sustained medium injuries while fighting with Eliyahu 'Amadi. Fatah announced in Beirut that his men are responsible for the murder of the Yeshiva student.

'Great Tension' in Old City

TA161615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] There is great tension in the Muslim Quarter of the Old City in Jerusalem. Reinforced police units are trying to prevent Jews from rioting. This afternoon two Molotov cocktails were thrown from the area of the Shuvu Banim Yeshiva, where the late Eliyahu 'Amadi was a student, toward homes belonging to Arabs. One of the Molotov cocktails ignited and started a fire in a warehouse and on the roof of a house. The Jewish rioters hurled stones at passersby and at policemen.

Shamir Views Jerusalem Murder, Reaction

TA170639 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir says the PLO is responsible for the murder in Jerusalem. However, according to Shamir Israel has not adopted a policy of retaliation, and there is no connection between the bombardment in Lebanon yesterday and the murder of the Jerusalem youth; we fight terror today whenever we find it proper to do so and whenever this is possible. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik heard these remarks yesterday, after the prime minister's speech to hundreds of participants in the opening session of the Israel-U.S. trade week.

[Begin recording] [Shamir] This is not a new type of terror. The terrorists are thus fulfilling instructions received from the PLO terrorist organization leadership. We will continue to fight against this until we uproot terrorism and such attacks are not repeated.

[Sukenik] Mr Shamir was asked about the ferment in Jerusalem in the wake of the stabbing incident.

[Shamir] The riots should be stopped. It is vital to have order in Jerusalem and to eliminate disturbances there. [end recording]

Cabinet Briefed on Vanunu, Jerusalem Murder

TA161044 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1038 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] The weekly Cabinet session ended a short while ago, and here is the initial report: Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir briefed the Cabinet on the Vanunu affair. This briefing was heard by the Cabinet in its capacity as Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs, with everything that this implies.

Acting Police Affairs Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz reported to the ministers on the murder in the Old City of Jerusalem yesterday and on police operations following it. The above was reported by our correspondent 'Oz Frankel.

The Cabinet also began discussing the situation in the higher education institutions and heard reports on the subject by Education and Culture Minister Yitzhaq Navon and by the head of the universities' planning and budget council, Prof Ya'aqov Ziv. Our correspondent Ronen Gurevich, who covered this aspect of the Cabinet session, reports that the debate was cut short and will resume in an upcoming Cabinet session.

Shamir Says Crisis With Britain Passed

TA171214 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reiterated today that Mordekhay Vanunu was not kidnapped on British soil. Speaking before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Shamir said that in his opinion the crisis with Britain has already passed.

The prime minister was also asked about the reports on arms shipments from Israel to Iran, and he replied that Israel adheres to the rule that there be no official statements on the matter of arms sales.

Referring to another issue Mr Shamir said that the disturbances in the wake of the murder of the yeshiva student in Jerusalem are only making things more difficult for the defense establishment and should not be tolerated.

Shamir Interviewed on Iranian Arms, Vanunu

TA150900 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0805 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir — "the first he has granted the Israeli media since entering into office" — by political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Ben-'Ami] Mr Prime Minister, during the course of this past week, Israel was either directly involved, or was a witness to several political events. Toward the week's end, it appeared that, at least from the political standpoint, the Vanunu affair, over the man involved in nuclear matters who was transferred to Israel, had reached its end. Can you say that in view of the clarifications the Israeli Government has given the British Government, this affair has indeed reached its end, from the political point of view?

[Shamir] I would like to hope that there will be no further harassment in this respect. I do not, furthermore, believe there was any reason for special concern on the part of the British Government because right from the onset we said that as far as we are concerned, we did nothing to violate British law.

[Ben-'Ami] But it is Britain which has tried, and has succeeded somewhat, in leading Europe and other Western countries to war againstinternational terrorism, mainly against Syria. What is your reaction to the fact that Britain is the leading force in this campaign?

[Shamir] From the very start, we said that we regard this British move as confirmation of the international struggle against terrorism, which should focus primarily on action against countries which support terrorism. This is the most important objective, because no terrorist organization can achieve meaningful success without the help of a country. The weak point of the worldwide anti- terror campaign is precisely in the fact that there are countries that support terrorism, providing it with very substantial support. This assistance should be stopped, hence we greatly praised Britain for this move, although we did not regard it as heralding any change in British policy or an expression of the British position on the Middle East conflict. We regarded it only at its face value: The sincere desire to attack international terrorism.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Prime Minister, you said that no terror organization could function without the aid of some country. This leads us to the second political event of the week, namely the affair involving the sale of arms to Iran. Iran supports the terrorist organizations in Lebanon, and yet at the end of the week President Reagan said that the United States had indeed cooperated with, and even sold arms to, Iran, a country to which we attribute a great many terrorist operations.

[Shamir] We must comprehend President Reagan's statements accurately; and he discussed a political move aimed to bring about a change in Iran's political goals. Iran is a very important Middle Eastern country, and it is both important and vital for the Western, free world to make sure that Iran does not act against it. This is what lies behind the U.S. attempt to persuade influential elements in Iran to change their policy. In describing the U.S. objectives, the President also included this angle involving the saving of hostages, but he said this would only constitute a shift in policy if it actually takes place. I would therefore urge people not to regard this U.S. move as any sort of digression from its avowed war against international terrorism.

[Ben-'Ami] Israel's name, or rather names of Israelis, were linked to this affair of the sale of U.S.-made weapons to Iran. Would you care to comment now, after President Reagan's remarks, on our involvement or role in this business?

[Shamir] The President did not mention Israel in even one word, and I consequently do not think that we must push ourselves into this affair. There are a lot of elements in the world who are trying to link Israel to any murky business anywhere around the globe, and I donot believe it is our business or in our interest to further that effort.

[Ben-'Ami] Then could you say that Israel never sold arms to Iran throughout the course of this longstanding war with Iraq?

[Shamir] We have been saying this all along: Israel does not supply Iran with arms.

[Ben-'Ami] Are you saying this despite the statements by the vice prime minister and the defense minister, who claimed that Israel did not sell U.S.-made weapons [to Iran] without U.S. license?

[Shamir] These statements, too, are correct, and both the vice prime minister and the defense minister have repeatedly said that Israel does not sell arms to Iran.

[Ben-'Ami] The reason we are pressing you on the issue is simply because it was the press that has nagged, and I presume continues to harass the decision-making echelons, and with regard to the Vanunu case, too, [as heard] and in his address to the nation, President Reagan admitted that he was doing this because he wanted to dispel rumors emanating from the press. Are the press-generated rumors, reports, or speculations totally unfounded?

[Shamir] There is always speculation and the media is forever spreading rumors surrounding any political occurrence in the world. Very often the publicity hampers the politician's attempts to reach their goals in such cases. When the objectives are highly justified, there is room for regret over these interferences. However, this is not to say that everything that has been printed in the papers is accurate; there are very many reports that have had no foundation in reality.

[Ben-'Ami] With your permission, Mr Prime Minister, let us move on to another topic, which is extremely vital to this country: the October consumer price index [CPI] published at the end of last week, which stood at 2.4 percent. We have already gotten used to lower indexes, so is there here a sign of some difficulties which the economic program is encountering?

[Shamir] It is true that this index was worse than those that preceded it recently, but it was predictable. It came as nosurprise, and everyone realized that the October CPI would be higher than the indexes to which we have grown accustomed. Some people even thought that it would actually be higher than it finally was. I would not say that this is an encouraging sign, but at the same time we know that after this index, perhaps next month's, the indexes will be lower and the trend of lowering the rate of inflation and of perpetuating the stability we have achieved will continue.

[Ben-'Ami] Will it be possible to preserve the framework of the economic program and perhaps even talk about growth in anticipation of the debate over the budget, in which the Defense Ministry is demanding a 10-percent increase, with the Health, Education, and Social Welfare Ministries demanding their fair share, too?

[Shamir] Naturally, we never lack problems. Each time we discuss the budget, there have always been demands for greater expenditures despite the need to increase income, which means taxes. We will have to contend with all these things. Yet there is not a shadow of a doubt in my mind that in the end we will have to stick to the goal, which is to lower inflation, and to continue the stability together with a move toward growth, which would initially be modest but which would hopefully expand. It would otherwise not be normal for us to make do or be satisfied with an economy that is not growing. Thus, growth is essential, and we indeed plan to see the growth stage start as early as in 1987.

[Ben-'Ami] You have already held meetings with the leading manufacturers and the Histadrut secretary general. Do you believe that all the partners from the Cabinet in the economic program will really pitch in and the Histadrut will lend a helping hand just as it has during the first part of this Cabinet's term?

[Shamir] Everything I heard and saw last week during my intensive meetings with the various bodies involved in the economy proves that there is a shared and sincere desire to cooperate and joinin a concerted effort so that stability truly continues and we can move on to growth.

[Ben-'Ami] Thank you very much, Mr Prime Minister.

[Shamir] Thank you, and a good Sabbath.

DAVAR Details U.S.-Iranian Arms Dealings

TA141105 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
14 Nov 86 pp 1,2

["Exclusive Report from Washington" by Amnon Dankner, Gid'on Kouts, and Tali Zelinger]

[Excerpt][passage omitted] The *Davar* correspondent has learned new details on arms deals by the United States and Israel with Iran from well informed Irani exile sources. The sources said that the key man in the contacts was (Sayrus Hashimi), an Iranian weapons dealer who operated in London and New York and who was assassinated in London in December 1985 by representatives of the "hawkish camp" in Tehran.

(Hashimi) was a cousin of Ayatollah Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian Parliament and head of the "moderate" faction, who has admitted to carrying out contacts with the United States. He was also close to Admiral Madani, former defense minister in Khomeyni's regime, who is now an exile in France.

(Hashimi), who operated in the United States as early as 1980, cultivated relations with Elliot Richardson — who was attorney general in the Nixon and Ford administrations — in 1984. Arms sales in the framework of the direct contact between Iran and the U.S. Administration began in September 1985. Two months later (Hashimi) was murdered.

In February 1985 Iran sent its former Foreign Minister Ibrahim Yazdi to the United States, where he held many meetings with National Security Council officials, notably with Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North, head of the political-military department in the council.

The United States sent Robert McFarlane to Tehran. According to one version McFarlane visited Tehran once, last July. According to another version he visited there twice. The weapons and spare parts shipments in exchange for which American hostages have been freed were sent on "Galaxy" planes from Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines. Israel transferred its shipments to Madrid, Italy, or Denmark from where they were transferred to Iran, usually aboard ships. It is known, however, that on two occasions the weapons were transferred on planes.

The Iranian sources said that until the beginning of the national unity government Israel supplied weapons to Iran of its own initiative. Upon entering office Prime Minister Peres ordered a stop to the shipments. They were renewed at the initiative of the Americans only towards the end of 1985.

Among the Iranian exiles there is a camp which opposes the supply of weapons to Iran and another which supports it. The pro-Iraqi elements are against the shipments. Among them is former Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiyar and the Mujahidin Organization, headed by Mas'ud Rajavi, who was extradited by France to Iraq. The monarchist circles, who center around the Shah's son, Reza Pahlevi, and the nationalists, including Admiral Madani, support the supplies to Iran, in order to help it. [passage omitted]

Shamir Ready To Meet Mubarak 'Anytime, Anywhere'

TA160958 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
16 Nov 86 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that he is prepared to confer with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak "anytime and anywhere" to bring about an improvement in bilateral relations.

Shamir said this on Friday during a meeting in Jerusalem with members of the U.S. House of Representative subcommittee on Middle Eastern affairs, who are touring several countries in the region.

The prime minister emphasized that he would pursue his predecessor's policy and again called on King Husayn to join the process.

Peres Returns From U.S. Fund-Raising Trip

TA170620 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Peres has returned to Israel from a 6-day trip to the United States. During his visit he met with American Jewish leaders. The foreign minister refused to answer reporters' questions, though his spokesman said that during his visit Peres was able to raise funds for investments in the Negev.

Peres on Al-Asad Speech, Relations With Britain

TA171313 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami on 17 November; place not given — recorded]

[Text][Ben-'Ami] Mr Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, did you see anything special in President al-Asad's speech yesterday, in his deadly attack on the United States and Britain?

[Peres] I believe this was a very interesting speech because Al-Asad wanted to deny, to say that the Syrians are against terrorism, when in fact he confirmed they are for terrorism. He simply wants a high-class terrorism. He wants to get all the great and important people around the world to confirm that what he calls a war of liberation, or terrorism for the sake of liberation, is permissable, that it is permissable to kill men, women, and children. He needs international approval on this. I have never seen such an unimportant but such a revealing speech as this one, with Al-Asad being unaware of this. The entire speech is based on make-believe. Syria's economic situation is truly difficult, although he defined this as stemming only from economic problems — one can, of course, describe an economic crisis in this way.

Al-Asad's threats to more or less settle accounts with the entire world leave very little impression, since the time has come for him to see to his own affairs rather than think about the rest of the world. If I read this speech correctly, it describes Syria as a country which conceals the truth from its citizens, which advocates terrorism under an appropriate title, and which finds itself under a great deal of international isolation as a result of its actions. Syria is trying to cover for its weakness by expressing anger.

[Ben-'Ami] Is all this a result of the isolation caused by Britain and adopted by the United States — the sanctions they imposed on Syria?

[Peres] The story is not over yet. We are currently witnessing a second Al-Hindawi affair. If the second brother of this glorious family says he received a bomb from the Syrian Embassy, I do not know how it all will be treated. This too may have been done without the Syrian president's knowledge.... The first time the Syrians defended themselves by claiming that neither the president nor the government knew; so who did know? What guarantee do we have that they will know in the future?

[Ben-'Ami] Sir, the question that always arises is whether, under the pressure exerted on it, Syria will not kick, with us being such close neighbors?

[Peres] Syria would have tried to kick a long time ago if it had thought its legs were strong. What stops it is not a moral consideration but rather the lack of certainty that it can indeed score achievements in this way. The fact that it is so inclined need not surprise anyone.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Peres, we may be at the end of the Vanunu affair, at least from the political point of view. Can you state that Israeli-British relations are as stable and good as they were before this affair?

[Peres] I had a talk with Mrs Thatcher 2 days ago when she was at Camp David. The talk was very friendly. I believe that the misunderstanding between us was completely eliminated. I certainly assess that relations have remained friendly. They carry the potential for further improvement, which we will try to materialize in the future.

[Ben-'Ami] This affair is over then, from the political point of view, right?

[Peres] I do not know why journalists have an axe to grind when it comes to politicians. We have at long last given the press an affair that it can hash out time and again. From the political point of view the matter has subsided.

[Ben-'Ami] Another question, sir: A leftist delegation left for Romania and met or talked with PLO representatives, but it seems that this affair has also subsided. Has it?

[Peres] The true story of this meeting has not been told. I think that the Israeli side to this meeting is also trying to cover up the truth. The story is that a PLO delegation arrived in Romania and was afraid to meet the Israeli delegation. Some of them did not even show up for the meeting. Instead of sitting together for a few days they sat for 1 or 1 and 1/2 hours, as if forced to do so, and then fled the meeting. I am not even talking about our side, about the fact that it was clear in advance that they were traveling for a farce [preceding word in English]. The truth was not told; It was not reported that the PLO simply took fright and that the already miserable meeting became even more so because participants were absent, because in effect the meeting was not really held, and because it again proved the PLO's true positions.

Yitzhaq Rabin Arrives in Sweden on Private Visit

For coverage of Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's private visit to Sweden, including his visits with Prime Minister Carlsson, Foreign Affairs Minister Andersson and Defense Minister Carlsson see the 17 November issue of the Western Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Further Reportage on Franco-African Summit

French Position on Chad Stated

LD141808 Paris International Service in French
1245 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] As expected in Lome, Chad is uppermost in the minds and all the talks — both official and unofficial — at the Franco-African summit, and it is this subject that has led to the presence in Lome of representatives of GUNT [Transitional Government of National Unity] and of a U.S. envoy. In addition, even before the official opening of the summit this morning, Francois Mitterrand, Hissein Habre, and Jacques Chirac had breakfast together. Here's the latest from Edouard Dore:

[Dore] It is a fact that the Chad issue is consuming a lot of energy here because, after all, the framework of the Franco-African summit makes this the right time, and the recent change of fortune for Goukouni lends itself to discussion here too. Immediately on his arrival, and even prior to the opening of the conference, President Habre had talks successively with Zairian President Mobutu, Senegalese President Diouf, and Taj al-Din, leader of the Sudanese delegation.

The Chadian head of state also received yesterday evening an American delegate — the under secretary in charge of African affairs and Chester Crocker's aide. The Washington envoy reaffirmed to President Habre that the United States is ready to back any initiative on the ground if France, however, makes such a decision.

The extent of this French support for a possible reconquest of northern Chad was one of the major points of this morning's breakfast at 0900 this morning at the VIP quarters in Lome, where the French president is staying, between Francois Mitterrand, Hissein Habre, and Jacques Chirac. The meeting lasted 50 minutes, and those taking part were not very forthcoming when they left. Let's listen now to Francois Mitterrand after the breakfast, talking to Jean-Karim Fall:

[Begin Mitterrand recording] We spoke, of course, about Chad, about the war taking place there, and about the regrouping taking place around the head of state. It is in keeping with France's wishes, as you know, that Chad should regain its dignity, independence, and sovereignty over the whole of its territory. [end recording]

[Dore] The regaining of Chad's territorial integrity — in other words the recapture of the north — and the possibility of an offensive against the Libyan forces; the French position on this is known. It agrees to back the Chadian troops, but this backing can be solely logistic. There is therefore no question at present of providing air cover for a possible offensive to the north. There were thus two French representatives at this breakfast with Hissein Habre, but one point of view only.

On the Chadian side, President Habre pleaded, of course, for a rapid reconquest of that part of his country lying north of the 16th parallel. In brief, the discussion between the three men was frank, and that is what President Habre told Jean-Karim Fall:

[Begin recording] [Habre] I can say that we spoke frankly and as friends who tell one another the truth, and I can tell you that the meeting was very positive and very satisfying.

[Fall] It must have been very pleasing to hear such truths from each other, wasn't it?

[Habre] Yes, we always tell one another the whole truth. We trust one another. [end recording]

[Dore] Having said that, there was also talk during the breakfast of a possible relaunching of a peace process. On this subject it must be said that a large number of Chadians have made the journey to Lome, apart from the official delegation from Ndjamena, of course. For example, a personal representative of Goukouni Oueddei has been in the Togolese capital since Tuesday, expecting to be received by some of the politicians present here. In addition, a delegation of members of the GUNT who are still supported by Libya and opposed to Goukouni, led by Facho Balaam, is also in Lome. These people are currently gathered in Cotonou and are expected to set about forming a new executive organ for the GUNT in the next few days. In short, it is probable that a certain number of contacts will be made here in Lome with varying degrees of discretion between Chadians. Officially, in any case, a certain number of proposals have been made to contribute to a relaunching of talks. Yesterday you heard Taj al-Din, member of the Sudanese Supreme Council, offering himself as mediator between Chad and Libya. Let's now listen to what Malian President Moussa Traore told us regarding his willingness to help towards reconciliation between the Chadians:

[Begin recording] [Traore] It is no secret. Several weeks ago GUNT President Goukouni Oueddei called in my ambassador to ask me to intervene with the Libyan authorities for him to come to Bamako. Unfortunately I was indisposed, and I believe his coming to Bamako would certainly have contributed to finding a solution to the Chadian problem. Since the problem will probably be raised during this summit conference, I think that my friend Hissein Habre will propose solutions for the attention of this summit.

[Correspondent] If I properly understood what you have just said, it is Goukouni Oueddei who took the initiative for a summit meeting with Chadian President Hissein Habre in Bamako?

[Traore] Absolutely right, I can confirm this, and he asked me to intercede with the Libyan authorities to make this meeting possible.

[Correspondent] If I were to ask you if you are willing to hold such a meeting in Bamako in the next few weeks what would you say?

[Traore] If the interested parties confirm this as they have already done previously, if this happens, it is not Mali's role to refuse to mediate between the Chadian parties to ensure their national unity. [end recording]

Ministers Discuss Agenda

LD141224 Paris International Service in French 0800 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] The 22 heads of state and the 40 delegations invited to participate in the 13th French-African summit, which will start in 2 hours exactly, have arrived in Lome, Togo, for the traditional opening session. For 2 days, the participants will debate important current affairs, in particular the economic situation of the African continent, and also the situation in Chad and apartheid in South Africa.

Last night, while the invited heads of state were taking part in a banquet given in their honor by General Eyadema, the foreign affairs ministers of the delegations present were participating in a discussion on the questions to be entered on the agenda of this 13th summit. From Lome, here is a report by Stephen Smith:

The meeting of the foreign ministers began with an introductory report by their Togolese counterpart who outlined the problems and the current issues in the African continent. The minister recalled in particular the grave economic difficulties which African countries face which have as a consequence an increasing and more and more heavy debt. The French delegation then outlined France's cooperation policy, which tends to be egalitarian and notably in harmony with the efforts of international institutions. French Minister of Cooperation Michel Aurillac underlines in this respect that in sub-Saharan Africa, where France is the main sponsor, one-third of the external aid comes from French cooperation, one-third comes from multilateral cooperation, and one-third comes from bilateral cooperation of various origins, a fact that does not provide a position of dominance to anyone which could be exercised at the expense of African countires, said the French minister before concluding that we want to turn Africa into a continent of justice, stability, and peace.

Habre on Chadian Situation

AB151501 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1330 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] The summit of heads of state of Africa and France ended in Lome this afternoon. In the Togolese capital, the 39 heads of delegations examined the political and economic problems facing relations between France and its African partners. Our country, as you are aware, is represented in the Togolese capital by the head of state, His Excellency El Hadj Hissein Habre, who, moreover, has never missed any conference of heads of state of Africa and France since becoming president in June 1982.

On problems facing Chad, especially Libya's constant attacks, the president of the Republic seized the opportunity at the meeting to explain to his counterparts that the Libyans persist in occupying the north of our country. The summit which has just ended was held at a time when Chad is at the height of its battle with the Libyan invasionary forces.

This morning the president of the Republic asserted during a news conference that the 16th Parallel was perhaps a French or Libyan concept which did not concern Chad in any way. The 16th Parallel does not exist as far as we Chadians are concerned, the head of state told journalists, adding that the current situation in the northern part of the country is dramatic. In northern Chad a real genocide is taking place.

On the country that could help Chad to recover its rights, the president of the republic, His Excellency El Hadj Hissein Habre, said that Chad would accept any support in its liberation struggle. France, for example, said the president of the Republic has never overlooked the problem of Libya's occupation of northern Chad, even if for economic reasons France is not in a position at present to support Chad in the battle to reconquer the north.

Nevertheless, the situation is henceforth straightforward. The Chadians are on one side of the battle while the Libyans are on the other, His Excellency El Hadj Hissein Habre stated at the press conference this morning.

Franco-African Summit Ends

AB152035 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Excerpt] The main theme of our newscast this evening is the 13th summit conference of heads of state of France and Africa which opened yesterday at the RPT hall in Lome and ended late this morning. The closing session at the RPT hall was marked by speeches by Presidents Eyadema and Mitterrand and by a press conference at the Hotel du 2 Fevrier by the president of the French Republic which was held in the presence of President Eyadema.

In his closing speech, the RPT founding chairman, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, expressed his thanks to all the participants at this conference. Security, economy, peace, apartheid, and world conflicts were the main themes in Gen Eyadema's closing speech. Gen Eyadema thanked the heads of state and government, the French prime minister, the heads of delegations, and the guests on behalf of the Togolese people, their party the RPT, and on his own behalf, for their active participation in the summit and for their contribution to the success of this summit, an expression of their deep attachment to the ideal of working together to create a new world. [passage omitted]

'Final Communique' Issued

AB171040 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] The 13th Franco-African summit ended in Lome and a final communique was issued. Here is the content of this final communique:

The 13th Franco-African summit of the French and African heads of state was held in Lome on 13, 14, and 15 November 1986 at the invitation of His Excellency General Gnassingbe Eyadema, head of the Togolese Republic.

The various countries which attended the meeting participated as member states or observers.

As members: Benin, Burundi, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, the Comoro Islands, Congo, Ivory Coast, Djibouti, France, Gabon, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Mali, Morocco, Mauritius, Mauritania, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Chad, Togo, and Zaire.

As observers: Angola, Botswana, Egypt, Liberia, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

The Republic of Haiti was invited to participate in the conference by the Togolese president.

The heads of state and government took this opportunity to examine economic and cultural issues as well as topics of common interest in order to strengthen the cooperation between the member countries. The deliberations took place in an atmosphere of mutual trust and friendship, solidarity, and understanding.

The apartheid issue was discussed and given special attention.

The Chadian head of state made a statement on the serious situation prevailing in the northern part of his country. The participants expressed their concern as well as their sympathy with the civil population of that region.

The issue of international terrorism was discussed in a speech by the Togolese president. The French head of state also described international terrorism as one of the calamities of our time and stressed the need to strengthen the cooperation between member states in this field through the exchange of information.

Other heads of state suggested the adoption of a fundamental document based on ways and means to discourage and punish terrorists and all acts of terrorism regardless of their countries of origin and the countries where the acts of terrorism are perpetrated.

The heads of state and delegiations expressed their gratitude to President Eyadema for the quality of the welcome received and for the organization of the conference.

They agreed to hold the 14th conference in France in 1987.

Mitterrand News Conference

LD160522 Paris Domestic Service in French 1700 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Chad and cohabitation were the main topics of the press conference that Francois Mitterrand held in Lome at the end of the 13th Franco-African summit. It is worth noting that Jacques Chirac did not attend the conference, unlike Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Jean-Bernard Raimond and Cooperation Minister Michel Aurillac.

On Chad, Francois Mitterrand recalled that France had not changed its policy: it supported President Habre's efforts, but it did not intend to intervene militarily north of the 16th Parallel — in other words, a word to the wise is enough.

On cohabitation, Francois Mitterrand made the following remark: I am implementing the law because I want to spare France useless crises out of respect for the choice of the people.

Francois Mitterrand is going to continue his African visit by going to Mali, then Burkina Faso. As for the prime minister, he flew to the Ivory Coast.

ALGERIA

'At Least' 2 Killed in Constantine Riots

NC142104 Paris AFP in English 2052 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] Algiers, Nov 14 (AFP) — Three days of student demonstrations in Constantine, northeastern Algeria, last weekend left at least two dead and dozens of injured, various sources said here Friday.

Witnesses said there were casualties both among the students and the security forces, who harshly quelled the disturbances.

According to unconfirmed reports one person died and several were injured in nearby Setif where similar demonstrations broke out on Tuesday and Wednesday.

No official reports have been made on casualties following the demonstrations but the press on Wednesday and Thursday reported jail sentences of from two to eight years against 136 "troublemakers."

Witnesses in Constantine said demonstrations by students and schoolchildren against poor living conditions and proposed changes in the school curriculum quickly degenerated when they were joined by unemployed youths, drawn in from the outer suburbs.

Children as young as ten were seen taking part in looting and harassment of the security forces.

State property was the main target of looting. The offices of Algeria's sole political party, the National Liberation Front (FLN), came under attack and portraits of Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid were smashed.

Witnesses said local people appeared to support the demonstrators, frequently giving refuge to demonstrators escaping pursuit by the security forces.

The Algerian authorities have accused "enemies of the revolution" of being behind the rioting.

Ibrahimi, Nigeria's Akinyemi Begin Talks

LD160600 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Talks were held today between Algeria and Nigeria at the Foreign Ministry. Taking part were Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and his Nigerian counterpart [Akinyemi]; members of both delegations later joined the talks. Bilateral relations and ways to bolster political consultations and economic cooperation were reviewed. Following an in-depth analysis and exchange of views on Africa's liberation and the development of the continent, both parties shared identical views on the situation in Namibia, South Africa, and the Western Sahara, as well as on the need to intensify cooperation among African states. Both parties also discussed the situation in the Arab east and west in addition to issues concerning the consolidation of African solidarity with the cause of the Palestinian people. At the end of their talks they reviewed international political and economic issues and other questions of mutual interest.

LIBYA

U.S. Sanctions Against Syria Criticized

NC150658 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
0600 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] The terrorist U.S. Administration decided yesterday to impose what it called sanctions against Syria. A U.S. State Department spokesman announced several hostile measures against Syria, once again emphasizing the venomous U.S. hatred of the Arab nation and proving that the United States will try to bring every Arab who seeks to free himself of U.S. hegemony to his knees.

The U.S. spokesman said that the secretary of commerce, after consultations with the secretary of state, will issue a list detailing the U.S. boycott of Syria in scientific, military, and oil-related areas, as well as in the exchange of visits. The spokesman mentioned that the sale to Syria of spare parts for aircraft will be banned and that U.S. oil companies operating in Syria will be instructed to stop prospecting and drilling operations there. The number of U.S. diplomats in Damascus will be reduced as well.

Further on U.S., EEC Sanctions

LD151546 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
1330 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Syria has described the spiteful steps taken by the U.S. Administration against it as a new aggressive and provocative step in the context of a campaign of fabrications and pressures with the participation of Britain, the U.S. stationary aircraft carrier, and the Zionist enemy, in a desperate attempt to compel Syria to abandon its line and policy rejecting the Stable David agreements and to surrender everything in the face of U.S. ambitions. A presidential palace spokesman yesterday emphasized that Syria is studying this hostile attitude and ways of answering it.

The EEC economic measures against steadfast Syria are part of the escalating crusade of imperialist-Zionist plots against the Arab nation in an attempt to make Syria abandon its rejection of the policy of submission and capitulation which the U.S. Administration is trying to impose on the Arab nation.

The European Parliamentary Council has ratified the EEC decisions against Syria and voted overwhelmingly in favor of withholding the development aid which Syria was supposed to get from the EEC as part of a 500 million pound allocation for seven Arab countries, including Syria. Dropping Syria from the list of countries benefiting from this aid is the first practical EEC step in the hostile crusade campaign launched by the West against progressive forces in the Arab homeland.

The imperialist U.S. Administration was not content with such measures. It announced a series of political and economic sanctions against Syria in a desperate attempt to break its steadfastness against imperialist-Zionist designs aimed at liquidating the Palestinian issue and imposing hegemony and subservience on the Arab nation. A Black House spokesman said the sanctions include a ban on exports of sensitive equipment to Syria, a ban on sales of Syrian Airways tickets, reduction of the number of U.S. Embassy personnel in Damascus, and a ban on the sale of civilian aircraft and helicopters.

Observers note that the announcement of these measures comes as child killer Thatcher meets with Israel's rabid dog Reagan to receive Black House instructions. It is now clear that the stationary U.S. aircraft carrier, Britain, and the U.S. Administration form a political and military alliance within NATO. The U.S. aircraft carrier wants to use U.S. cover in its endeavor to become Europe's trustee, having lost its weight as a pressure force in Europe.

Despite all the feeble justifications which the U.S. Administration and its stationary carrier try to fabricate against Syria, many countries have strongly resented these measures. These countries include EEC member Greece, which refused to sign the EEC statement providing for sanctions against Syria. In the Arab homeland, the Mauritanian Government has firmly condemned the fabrication and deception campaigns launched by the stationary carrier, the U.S. Administration, and the Zionist circles against Syria. The General Federation of Arab Farmers and Cooperatives has strongly denounced the EEC economic measures against fraternal Syria. In an appeal to all farmers and cooperative organizations in the Arab world, it urged them to immediately stop importing agricultural equipment and machinery, seeds, fertilizers, and insecticides from all European states that have signed the London declaration.

The Great Jamahiriyah stands with Syria against these crusade campaigns against Arab existence.

JANA Editor on U.S. Measures

LD161523 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] The administration of the rabid dog of Israel, Reagan, has exposed its abominable, terrorist, aggressive face and its intentions and imperialist designs against the Arab nation. In all impertinence it announced yesterday a series of provocative measures against fraternal Syria on a flimsy pretext and fabrications that cannot deceive even a little child.

The JANA Arab affairs editor has commented on these false U.S. allegations against fraternal Syria. He said: Since its assumption of power the administration of rabid dog Reagan has been daily preparing aggressive designs with the aim of liquidating the Palestine cause, imposing imperialist hegemony on the Arab nation, and dominating its resources and destinies. These designs aim to strike at the Arab nation as a whole, starting with the progressive revolutionary countries that are the spearhead against the U.S.-NATO imperialist designs in the region.

The JANA editor added: The false fabrications and charges against fraternal Syria, coming now as they do, are only a prelude to a fresh open aggression against the Syrian Arab people. Such allegations were leveled in a provocative open campaign against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah prior to the abortive U.S.-NATO barbaric aggression on the Libyan Arab people on 15 April, which resulted in the martyrdom of innocent children, women, and old people, in a bid to divert the Great Jamahiriyah from attending to its leading role in resisting the U.S. imperialist and Zionist reactionary designs against the Arab homeland.

The JANA Arab affairs editor affired that the U.S.-NATO imperialist measures against fraternal Syria now and those previously against the Great Jamahiriyah clearly vindicate the truth of the revolutionary vision of the leader of the great 1 September Revolution, who has never ceased to alert people to the dangers threatening the Arab nation and its progressive revolutionary forces by U.S. imperialism and NATO and their protege, racist Zionism.

Yesterday the crusading, aggressive, terrorist design was directed against Lebanon, and in the recent past it was directed against the Great Jamahiriyah. Now it has come to threaten fraternal Syria and soon, because of the current deteriorating conditions, the turn of Yemen, Algeria, and other revolutionary progressive Arab countries will come.

The editor added: We are not children to be taken in by these aggressive designs which are brandished occasionally against one Arab country and then against another Arab country. This is the line followed by the imperialist U.S.-NATO-Zionist train against the Arab homeland from the ocean to the Gulf.

This is a 10th imperialist crusade now being led by an aging maniac at the White House, who still imagines himself in a third-rate movie studio shooting a failed movie.

The JANA Arab affairs editor added that the Arabs and their forces, who are living in this ferocious and aggressive campaign, which is tantamount to a terrorism that exceeds all terrorism, have no alternative other than to face up to the crusading U.S.-West European terrorism with counterterrorism: not the kind of terrorism propagated by the administration of the rabid dog but that which enables them to defend themselves — something which is a legitimate right no one can deny them so long as they have chosen either an honorable, free life, or death.

The editor referred to the provocative conditions set by the government of child-killer Thatcher in return for what it called the improvement of its relations with fraternal Syria and which is tantamount to ugly, blatant interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign, independent state. These ugly provocative conditions include the closure of the PLO offices and its training camps in Syria.

The editor affirmed that in view of their deteriorating conditions and in the absence of unity the Arabs should expect henceforth the dictation of conditions and open interference in even the formation of their governments, the appointment of their officials, the retention of so-and-so in the cabinet and the dismissal of so-and-so, as is happening now in the agent reactionary regime led by the regime of the crouching one in the vanquished capital, Cairo.

The editor said that this imperialist-NATO crusading interference will continue and grow owing to deteriorating Arab conditions until it affects our daily lives, our family lives, and family matters such as divorce, marriage, and childbirth and so forth, right down to the most basic aspects of our lives. This is the utmost humiliation to a noble Arab nation that has of old recorded glories with sweat and blood. It is the utmost humiliation to every Arab and a strong kick in the back of the Arab rulers who deem themselves friends of these imperialist NATO powers and who continue to praise them, to conclude deals with them, and to wander the streets of their countries in both summer and winter.

JANA Editor on Thatcher's Opinion of Reagan

LD161824 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1455 GMT 16 Nov 86

["Trade of Misery: Commentary by International Affairs Editor" — JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Nov JANA — Margaret Thatcher, leader of the Conservative government, has renewed her description of Israel's rabid dog, Reagan, following their meeting yesterday, by saying that he is amazing.

The JANA international affairs editor has commented on this, saying that this description immediately follows Reagan's exposure to a series of setbacks which could be described as political defeats.

He said that Thatcher, who has undoubtedly and deservedly won the title of child killer, has discovered what could be the cause of amazement in Reagan's personality when she shook his hand, which is sullied with children's blood, and smiled in his face, which is marked by the shame of the crimes he has committed against the peoples of Palestine, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Libya, Grenada, and Angola.

He added: Thatcher probably discovered the secret of surprise when she reviewed Reagan's destructive intentions against the Arab nation, especially after his accusation against Syria and the Great Jamahiriyah of terrorism, according to U.S. logic and understanding.

The editor stressed that Israel's rabid dog is in fact amazing because he is leading the administration of a major power despite what is known about him, his triviality, baseness, [word indistinct] and credibility which has gone beyond all arguments, in addition to his sterile, foolish personality residing in his old body and the disclosure of his utter ignorance of politics.

The editor wonders how an observer can describe so-called United States democracy when he discovers that Reagan spent 18 months in secret negotiations with one of the region's states about a suspect deal, in utter secrecy and the unawareness of the United States Congress and Senate.

He said that Thatcher did not make a mistake, despite the deliberate attempt, when describing Reagan as amazing. In fact he is so because he managed, through the professionalism of traders and dealers in misery, to market his lies to the American people, to drug them in an attempt to make them lose their conscience. He pointed out Reagan's trivial attempts to bribe officials in some countries in order to glamorize his wrinkled face by releasing the hostages, thinking that they will accept this.

He added that Reagan really is amazing because he has so far kept spitting out his lies in the ears of his cowardly Arab friends who keep believing him, ignoring the fact that he personally led the overt misinformation and treason campaign against the Great Jamahiriyah, in a cheap attempt to distort its reputation. He is now using this same trivial game against Syria.

The editor said it is really surprising that the world remains silent despite what this sick person claims about a right to draw personal conclusions and issue decisions concerning them in a clear and deliberate attempt at procrastination and terrorism.

He added that this mentality still remains and is a hub of amazement and surprise, particularly now that the world has discovered the degree of its baseness and its unworthiness of respect. This fact confirms the need to expel him from the White House and to immediately present him for trial for all the ugly crimes he has committed against mankind and humanity.

The editor once again said that Thatcher could at last be convinced that the man who amazes her did not arrive in the Oval Office in order to lead the United States, but was thrown into this place to carry out his filthy program, for which flogging remains the least punishment.

The editor concluded his commentary by saying that even a president of a major power can by no means hide the sun. The blazing fire of reality which exposes his scandals will pursue him even when he fades away like a cigarette stub. The fact that Thatcher can express her liking, commitment, and amazement remains a matter which exposes her subservience and her readiness to sail against the current.

Tripoli Reports 'Uprising' in Egyptian City

NC160723 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] The afflicted city of Al-Fayyum and its environs have been for the past 2 days the scene of a violent popular uprising that led to widespread clashes with the Egyptian regime's police. AFP, which carried this report, said that this popular uprising began after Friday prayers on 14 November and then spread throughout Al-Fayyum and surrounding villages. The Egyptian citizens participating in the uprising shouted slogans hostile to the agent regime in Egypt and demanded the overthrow of Husni Mubarak and his government and the establishment of a revolutionary government capable of solving the people's problems.

The demonstrators shouted slogans hostile to the U.S. Administration and Zionists and urged their death.

Reports from the vanquished capital [Cairo] have indicated that dozens of citizens who took part in the uprising have been arrested and detained in the regime's prisons.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Nigerian Foreign Minister

LD141857 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli, 14 Nov (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution received (?today) Nigerian Foreign Minister Bolaji Akinyemi, who handed the leader a written message from Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida.

Al-Qadhdhafi Sends Message to YAR President

LD152346 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1820 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli, 15 Nov (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution today sent a message to YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

PANA Director Arrives To Discuss Links With JANA

LD151931 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1845 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli, 15 Nov (JANA) — PANA Director General Auguste Mpassi-Muba this evening arrived in Tripoli on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

In a statement to JANA, Mr Mpassi-Muba said he is visiting the Great Jamahiriyah to hold talks on strengthening relations and links between JANA and PANA so we may let the voice of the peoples of the African Continent be heard and confront the imperialist propaganda trumpets. He added that these trumpets are the main source of information in Africa at present, and they are controlled by the monopolies. The Western news agencies such as the French, Reuter, Associated Press, and others which offer Africa distorted news attempt to control African public opinion and distort the African scene. He further said he seeks to strengthen the relations and links between PANA and JANA in their confrontation with Western feverish propaganda campaigns which spread venom through fabricated news aimed at misleading the African public and directing it toward serving the interests of the imperialist monopolies and the colonial forces in Africa.

He underlined, in his statement, the role of PANA and the information duty it has undertaken in Africa toward African events, giving a true picture of what is going on in the African street, to stress the interests of the African peoples, a matter which calls for the rallying of African news agencies' efforts and insuring news exchange among African countries. [passage indistinct]

JANA Cited on Lome Franco-African Summit

LD150950 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0215 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The 13th so-called Franco-African summit conference began its meetings in the Togolese capital, Lome, yesterday morning, with the participation of 19 delegations, including 20 heads of state.

Commenting on this conference, the JANA African affairs editor said that those who follow the meetings held by the French and African heads of states and governments readily realize that such meetings are always summoned to convene whenever France feels its influence in Africa being threatened. It has been established by practice that all the summits held in the past were dedicated to serving French influence in the African Continent and to abort any bold attempt to depart from the French imperialist sphere of influence.

The JANA African affairs editor affirmed that past Franco-African summit conferences have always been void of any positive results serving the interests of Africa and Africans. Indeed, all these conferences were devoted to consolidating the tying of Africa's destiny to the bandwagon of French policy on such pretexts as special relationships and other such terms invented by the masters of the Elysee.

The brother leader's call at the eighth nonaligned summit conference in Harare for rectifying this disgraceful situation, which squanders the African peoples' sacrifices in the cause of freedom, has had an effective and strong response among the peoples and progressive forces of the African Continent: Angola decided to respond to the call and withdrew from past Franco-African meetings as well as the current Lome meeting, and the Jamahiriyah of Burkino Faso also decided to boycott the francophone summit conferences, pointing out that these conferences were nothing more than an imperialist umbrella, whatever forms and names they acquire.

Concluding, the JANA African affairs editor said that if the heads of the African regimes participating in this imposed summit persist with their course and insist on squandering the sacrifices of their peoples for the sake of safeguarding their distinguished positions, the African peoples and their thriving forces, aware of what is happening and of where their true interests lie, are capable of throwing them and their like into the ash heap of history, as proven by the numerous lessons of the past: Where are Haile Selassie, Idris al-Sinusi, the vanquished Al-Sadat, and many others?

MAURITANIA

President Returns From 'Fruitful' Lome Summit

LD152250 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, returned to Nouakchott this evening from Lome, capital of Togo, where he took part in the 13th summit of the leaders of France and Africa. [passage omitted]

At the VIP lounge Colonel Taya made a statement to the national press in which he said: [passage omitted thanking Togo for hospitality] The 13th summit of the leaders of France and Africa, which was held in Lome from 13 to 15 November 1986, was characterized by taking an important stride at the level of African-French relations. The summit was not only confined to discussing the outcome of the multidimensional cooperation, it was also an occasion to make an accurate diagnosis of our economic and political situation and to suggest a suitable remedy to the ills from which our continent suffers.

The fruitful contacts we made in Lome reflect our collective concern and the adherence of all sides to peace, security, and economic and social development in our countries. We studied, says his excellency the head of state, all the obstacles which limit the efforts aimed at economic and financial reform, whether they concern Africa's external debt burden, desertification, or the decline of the prices of raw materials.

The summit allowed us to study the current African situation and to analyze the current international situation. We denounced the slow pace of developments in South Africa where apartheid remains an open wound in Africa and in the countries loving freedom and dignity. I held consultations with my brothers the presidents of Mali and Senegal at a meeting that enabled us to discuss cooperation among our countries especially in relation to the revival of the program of the organization for the exploitation of the Senegal River in its three aspects: irrigation, navigation, and energy. The situation in Chad received our attention, and we support the efforts aimed at establishing a dialogue and consultation so that this country may recover, after 20 years of war, peace for all its sons.

The many fruitful contacts I have had on the occasion of this summit confirm the benefit of such a meeting. I am confident that French-African cooperation and the ties of friendship and fraternity will emerge from this summit strengthened.

SUDAN

70 Reported Dead in Sudanese Tribal Fighting

NC151326 Paris AFP in English 1312 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 15 (AFP) — Seventy southern Sudanese villagers — most of them women and children — have been killed in a major outbreak of fighting between two rival tribes, the daily *Al-Siyasah* newspaper said here on Saturday.

The paper said the clashes, which involved house-to-house fighting with light weapons through five districts, had occurred in the west of Bahr el Ghazal Province between the local Jur and Fertit tribes.

The paper did not give an explanation for the fighting. The two tribes have in the past been close, and have inter-married.

It said a provincial security committee had been exerting great efforts to contain the crisis, which began last month.

The Jur is a branch of the Dinka tribe, to which southern Sudanese rebel leader John Garang belongs.

The paper quoted a spokesman for the Sudan-African Congress (SAC) organization, Edward Leino as demanding a detailed statement by the Interior Ministry on the fighting, which it described as a "dirty game."

The paper said that Mr Leino had expressed concern that the ongoing clash might lead to a tribal conflict and the creation of new militia groups similar to the Anyanya Two organization.

Anyanya Two has been collaborating with government forces in the fight against Mr Garang's Sudan People's Liberation Army.

The SAC spokesman said the Sudanese Constituent Assembly would be asked to hold an urgent debate on the clash.

SPLA Radio Reports 11 Nov Clash; 77 Said Killed

EA142127 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Arabic 1330 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Units of the SPLA (Koriom) special task force, stationed in the Bor area, under the overall command of Lt Colonel Kuol Manyang Juk, an alternate member of the SPLA-SPLM Political Military High Command and under the direct command of Major Bona Abang Dhol, have clashed with forces of the Khartoum regime's Army that attempted to advance towards Bor town. Our forces confronted them and drove them back, and they fled in disarray. That was on 11 November. The battle resulted in the death of 77 enemy soldiers, and a number of them were wounded. Our correspondent says that the enemy had sent its troops to strengthen the forces at Terakeka and these were the forces heading for Bor.

Our forces captured [word indistinct] the following: two T-55 tanks, the first number 9765384 and the second without a number and in good operating condition; one truck without a number; one Kalashnikov, number 6784; one G-3, number 331157. Two Bren guns were also destroyed.

Units from Zindiya, (Cobra Raad), Hadid, and (Asila Manju) battalions participated in this operation. [passage omitted on names of officers who carried out operation]

Committee To Discuss Ending War in South

EA142103 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Nov (SUNA) — A high-level meeting here today decided to form a committee to discuss appropriate ways of stopping the war in the south, to implement a cease-fire in the southern part of the country, and to follow up the dispatch of relief goods to the southern part of the country.

This meeting included Mr Idris al-Banna, deputy chairman of the Council of the Head of State, and a delegation from the Sudanese Council of Churches that came to Khartoum from Juba recently "on a peace mission," in addition to Dr Pacifico Lado Lolik, member of the Council of the Head of State, Mr Abd al-Mahmud al-Haj Salih, attorney general and chairman of the Supreme Council for Religious Affairs and Waqfs, and Shaykh Siddiq Abd al-Hayy as a representative of the Muslim scholars group.

The meeting decided to form the committee from the government, the Sudanese Council of Churches, and the Muslim scholars group.

The meeting was convened to discuss the provision of relief to those affected by famine in the southern part of the country and peace efforts to stop the war there.

Mr Idris al-Banna spoke at the beginning of the meeting, stressing the importance of this meeting which aims at [word indistinct] means of delivering relief goods to the south to stop the escalating starvation there because of the continuing unjustified war, as well as ways of stopping the war. He stressed that there was no quarrel between Islam and Christianity and that the messages of both call for peace and love.

Dr Pacifico also spoke, explaining the need to stop the war in the south because it is achieving nothing apart from depriving Sudan of its population. Pacifico emphasized the need to stop it. He said that the question was a humanitarian one because there were people dying of hunger [word indistinct] and provisions must be delivered [words indistinct], particularly as there were people who had not (?found) food for weeks, indeed months. Pacifico called on all sides to open the door to dialogue. He blessed the steps being taken by the delegation of priests of the Sudanese Council of Churches for peace and to provide relief to the hungry.

Mr Abd al-Mahmud al-Haj Salih also spoke at the meeting, stressing that the government is not rejecting dialogue, but that Col John Garang should agree to sit at the negotiating table to submit his demands, pointing out that the Islamic and economic laws were all issues subject to discussion and a dialogue could take place about them.

Al-Haj Salih said that Garang was attempting to internationalize the problem of the south. He stressed that military action would not solve the problem. He said that in spite of Garang's announcement on his radio that he would attack any aircraft arriving in the south, the government would not despair and that it would strive to deliver relief materials. He said it was reviewing the work of relief organizations with the aim of rationalizing it in the interests and for the benefit of those affected by famine in the south.

Mr Paolino Lokudu Loro, head of the Sudanese Council of Churches delegation, also spoke at the meeting, explaining that the aim of their coming from the south on a peace trip is to provide relief to the victims and put an end to the ongoing war. He pointed out that the current method of providing relief was not adequate and famine still threatened large numbers of citizens. He asked the government and Garang's group to facilitate the arrival of foodstuffs. Loro said that dialogue and Sudanese sitting together was the ideal method for solving all problems.

Al-Shaykh Siddiq Abd al-Hayy stressed that differences of color, language, and religion would not be an obstacle to the unity of the sons of the single homeland. Abd al-Hayy said that Islam was a religion of peace and compassion. He praised the efforts of the priests delegation for peace and an end to the war.

CHAD

Government Troops Said To Cross 16th Parallel

AB142007 Paris AFP in French 1947 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] Paris, 14 Nov (AFP) — Acheikh ibn Oumar's Revolutionary Democratic Council [CDR], the principal component of the Chadian armed opposition, said this evening that Ndjamena troops this morning crossed the 16th parallel, which separates the opposing forces in the north of Chad.

Ali Gaday, CDR spokesman in Paris, explained to AFP that President Hissein Habre's forces crossed the 16th parallel this morning to attack Fada on two fronts before they were beaten back by the National Liberation Army.

Government, GUNT Leader Agree To Cease-Fire

LD142123 Paris International Service in French 2030 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Excerpts][passage omitted] The situation on the ground in Chad appears to be changing very quickly. Goukouni Oueddei's People's Forces and the government have reached a cease-fire agreement. The news of this, which was given by the Chadian authorities, has been confirmed by the FAP, Goukouni Oueddei's People's Armed Forces, part of the GUNT [Transitional Government of National Unity]. [passage omitted]

Goukouni Aide on Cooperation

HK150528 Hong Kong AFP in English 0500 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Lome, Togo, Nov 15 (AFP) — The People's Armed Forces (FAP) of Chadian opposition leader Goukouni Oueddei are to cooperate with government troops following contacts at staff level, Mr Goukouni's chief aide, Kailan Ahmed, said here Friday night as Libyan troops and FAP units were reportedly locked in combat in northern Chad.

Kailan Ahmed said Libyan aircraft and artillery were bombarding all the oases in the north "in revenge for their military setbacks." He said the oasis of Gourma had been "wiped off the map and its entire population massacred."

The link-up with government forces would be in the higher interest of the country, Mr Kailan said. He added that Mr Guokouni was a prisoner in Libya and his life was in danger, and appealed to the Franco-African summit meeting here to secure his release.

Libya has until now supported Mr Goukouni, but he was replaced by Mahamat Issa as head of the coalition Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT) at a meeting of GUNT leaders this week.

Mr Kailan dismissed that move as a "last-minute Libyan manoeuvre," and said Mr Issa had been dropped from the FAP in 1983. Since then he had been a "Libyan reservist in a hotel in Tripoli," Mr Kailan said.

Ndjamena Said To Deliver Weapons

LD171005 Paris Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] In Chad, the former enemies, Hissein Habre and Goukouni Oueddei, have joined forces against the Libyans: Ground fighting is spreading north of the 16th parallel. The Ndjamena government is reported to have delivered French weapons and munitions to Goukouni Oueddei's troops. President Hissein Habre has even made an appeal on behalf of Goukouni Oueddei, who is being held prisoner by his former allies.

While it supports the Chadian Government, France refuses to get involved in a conflict in the north of Chad, which might lead to a direct confrontation with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi.

France Not To Aid Government in Capture of North

AB141610 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1230 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Last night, Jacques Foccart, the French prime minister's adviser for African affairs, said France will not intervene in the north of Chad. President Hissein Habre, he said, should not lead France into an adventure in the north by sending out his troops to attack the Libyan positions. For the time being, the French military operation "Sparrowhawk" maps out a line on the 16th parallel that the Libyans must not cross, he added.

This statement is a reply to Hissein Habre, who has asked France to help Chad recapture the north, which is under Libyan occupation.

GUNT Factions Meet in Benin to Choose Leader

AB141820 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1230 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] GUNT might be born again from its ashes. This is the option Libya is trying to promote in the face of the crisis plaguing the movement. In its new form, GUNT will be led, according to Libya, by Colonel Kamougue, former vice president of the movement. To be more precise, GUNT will operate without Goukouni Oueddei, its current president, who is reportedly still in Libya and in good health. Libya also indicates that the new GUNT should be formed after a meeting of the various factions that have broken relations with Goukouni Oueddei.

According to Tripoli, the meeting is expected to be held in Cotonou, Benin. The Libyan authorities are not the only ones to cite this city. Listen to the GUNT representative in Brussels, Issaka Rahmat, whom we are interviewing live from the Belgian capital.

[Rahmat] The heads of the GUNT factions meeting currently in Cotonou have formed a directorate in order to perpetuate the

GUNT's legal existence in the absence of its president. This formula, which is provisional, will be terminated when a new president is appointed by a consensus to replace Mr Goukouni. The directorate warns the Ndjamena group against any military attempt beyond the 16th parallel and appeals to the Franco-African summit to work toward a political solution to the Chadian problem.

[Reporter] Mr Rahmat, does this mean that the Goukouni Oueddei era is over?

[Rahmat] Yes, indeed. This is all the more so as his partisans, the People's Armed Forces, have come to an agreement with Ndjamena. This means the total exclusion of the GUNT president.

[Reporter] Mr Rahmat, do you plan to hold negotiations with Ndjamena with the aim of achieving national reconciliation in Chad?

[Rahmat] As a matter of fact, once the legal structures become operational, GUNT will work toward national reconciliation with the people in Ndjamena.

[Reporter] Once the legal structures are established, where will the new GUNT be based?

[Rahmat] The new GUNT will be based effectively in the north, in the liberated zone: either at Fada, Faya, Zouar, or anywhere else.

[Reporter] Can you please tell us the composition of the directorate set up in Cotonou.

[Rahmat] The new directorate comprises the People's Revolutionary Movement, the Revolutionary Democratic Council, the First Army, the Original Frolinat, the Fundamental Frolinat, the (?National Democratic Union), the Western Armed Forces, and breakaway elements of President Goukouni's People's Armed Forces.

[Reporter] According to Libya, it is Col Kamougue, former GUNT vice president, who will head the directorate of the new GUNT. What do you have to say?

[Rahmat] No. That is all nonsense. It is not true. This is only talk heard outside the meeting room. So far, no one has been appointed.

[Reporter] Thank you, Mr Rahmat.

Frolinat Opposes Acheikh Ibn Oumar as GUNT Chief

AB162123 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1830 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Statement by Frolinat Executive Bureau issued on 16 November in Cotonou condemning the choice of Acheikh ibn Oumar as the new GUNT leader; read by Frolinat Chairman Mahamat Abba Said]

[Text] The Cotonou meeting on the restructuring of the GUNT was not attended by all the factions that signed the Lagos accords. In view of this fact, any decision made at that meeting binds only those who made it. The appointment of Acheikh ibn Oumar as head of a ghostly GUNT was not made by general consensus and therefore marks the end of the very existence of the GUNT.

The First Army of the Frolinat, pioneer of the revolutionary struggle of the Chadian people to restore their independence and sovereignty and set up a popular, democratic, and socialist regime, is striving to ensure that any solution to the Chadian crisis takes into account the achievements, sacrifices, and aspirations of our people for the consolidation of their unity.

It appeals to Frolinat patriots and militants to wake up and accord priority to the basic interests of our people to save our country from division. The First Army, in its determination to restore peace at all costs, supports the efforts of the OAU and of its current chairman in the search for a global and long lasting solution to the Chadian crisis.

Signed in Cotonou on 16 November 1986 for the Executive Bureau of the chairman of the Supreme Council of the First Army of the Frolinat, El Hadj Mahamat Abba Said.

Correction to Army Communique on Fighting in North

Ndjamena Domestic Service in French at 1645 GMT on 14 November carries a repeat of the item headlined "Army Communique on Fighting" published in the 14 November Middle East & Africa *Daily Report*, page S 1, allowing for the following fills and corrections:

Paragraph three, lines three and four read: ...just engaged in a totally desperate action in launching a large-scale attack against the patriotic... (rewording and providing indistinct words);

Paragraph four, lines one and two read: ...of FAP at Gouba and Ouori are being subjected... (supplying indistinct words);

Paragraph five, lines two and three read: ...determination, the invaders have set in motion an arsenal and a large number of troops that are only commensurate with their macabre design: to achieve their... (supplying indistinct words);

Paragraph six, line two reads: ...a battalion of heavy-armored vehicles, several armored (?BND)-type... (supplying indistinct words);

Same paragraph, lines six and seven read: ...and material losses: 1 fighter plane has... (clearing figure "1");

Last paragraph, lines four through six read: ...of us to carry out the struggle side by side. In the face of these developments, all the Chadians... (adding dropped words and supplying indistinct words).

CONGO

France's Chirac Holds Talks With Sassou-Nguesso

AB141945 Dakar PANA in French 1347 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Brazzaville, 14 Nov (ACI/PANA) — French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, replying to the discontentment of African states over the visit to France by the South African president, has said his country "did not receive Pieter Botha." Mr Chirac, who made a brief stopover on Thursday, 13 November, on his way to Lome, where the 13th annual conference of France and Africa is being held as from today, added that no French political personality held discussions with the racist South African president. He said Mr Botha came to France to inaugurate a monument built in memory of South African soldiers who died on French territory during the Second World War in a domain belonging to the racist president. "Anybody can come to France, and I do not see why Pieter Botha should be refused a private journey," he said.

On the eve of that visit, the Congolese head of state, who is chairman of the Organization of African Unity, Colonel Sassou-Nguesso, had deplored the attitude of some European countries which have been visited recently by the Angolan rebel, Jonas Savimbi. The French prime minister emphasized in this regard the attachment of his country to the dignity of Africans, adding in this context that France will plead with the industrialized nations for the development of African countries.

Speaking on what he considered to be France's contribution to the Franco-African summit in Lome, he said France will try to convince its partners of the North about the prices of primary products through the adoption of prices acceptable to all. [passage omitted]

Mr Chirac, who is bound to the Congolese head of state by a "deep friendship," discussed with him topics related to the Chadian crisis and the situation in southern Africa. In this connection, he praised Col Sassou-Nguesso, current chairman of the OAU, for his efforts in favor of the dignity of Africans.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

President Obiang Nguema Mbasoga Departs for Lome

AB141152 Malabo Domestic Service in Spanish
2100 GMT 13 Nov 86

[Excerpts] President Obiang Nguema Mbasago this morning departed Malabo for Lome, capital of the Togolese Republic, at the head of a government delegation. In the Togolese capital, the head of state will, beginning tomorrow, attend the 13th Franco-African summit, which will also be attended by French President Francois Mitterrand and Prime Minister Jacques Chirac as well as by many African heads of state. [passage omitted] President Obiang Nguema Mbasago was seen off at the Malabo International Airport by Prime Minister Cristino Seriche Bioko Malabo, Deputy Prime Minister (Isidoro Monsay Andeme), members of state institutions, and top officials of the national administration. Also present at the airport were the governor of Bioko Norte Province, the mayor of Malabo, and members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Equatorial Guinea and of (?constituted bodies).

ZAIRE

President Mobutu Returns From Lome Summit

AB170900 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French
0600 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, founding chairman of the party, and Mama Bobi Ladawa [Mobutu's wife] returned home through Gbadolite yesterday, from Lome, Togo, where the president attended the 13th summit of French and African heads of state.

Before leaving Lome, the leader of the party and the state paid tribute to the Togolese people and their president for the perfect organization of this summit.

BENIN

Kerekou Returns From Lome, Makes Statement

AB160930 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Our great comrade in struggle, President Mathieu Kerekou, returned to Cotonou this afternoon from Lome where he attended, together with his African peers, the 13th conference of heads of state of France and Africa. President Kerekou and the important party and state delegation that accompanied him were welcomed at the Cotonou-Cadjehoun International Airport by members of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin Central Committee, members of the National Revolutionary Assembly Permanent Committee, members of the diplomatic corps, the mass organs of the party, and a large crowd of militants from Cotonou districts. The informal Lome summit centered on two major issues: economic and political problems. Concerning economic problems, the issue of Africa's debts was discussed. Concerning political problems, the situation in southern Africa and in Chad was at the center of the discussions. The 13th conference of heads of state of France and Africa has obviously been a success. Our great comrade in struggle, President Mathieu Kerekou, stated this in the statement he made upon his return to Cotonou. [passage omitted]

GUINEA

Mitterrand Gives News Conference on Relations

AB141342 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1245 GMT 13 Nov 86

[News conference by French President Francois Mitterrand in Conakry on 13 November at the conclusion of visit to Guinea — recorded]

[Excerpts] As you know, yesterday I began my visit to Guinea, the first leg of a trip that will take me to four African countries. I will leave this afternoon for Lome to attend the Franco-African summit. But in fact, I have been able to hold talks with President Lansana Conte — just as the French minister of cooperation has done with members of the government and a number of experts — and we have been able to (?share) at this point our analyses, our views, and even the steps and measures we intend to take toward the development of our cooperation, keeping in mind some problems of a general or universal nature that interest Guinea and France as sovereign states, particularly those that affect Africa itself.

I am very happy to be in Guinea again. I have greatly appreciated the welcome accorded the French delegation. I think the conversation that I have just had with President Conte, which follows the one we held yesterday during the dinner, will enable us to advance and to strengthen the ties between the two countries. France's position is simple: It has friends and it cooperates with its friends; Guinea is one of those friends.

France has no other intentions, (?as) I stated yesterday evening during the toast I proposed before the state dinner. We understand very well that the Guinean people, in their own country, must search for their own goals through their own means. If they need the cooperation of countries that they know, we are ready to help them; it is up to them to propose it, it is up to them to decide to do so. What is happening today between Guinea and France, as with other countries, is perfectly normal.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, if you have any questions, you may proceed, indicating to me your affiliation, as this will make things much easier. I would like to ask you, especially the Guinean journalists, to kindly express my friendly and brotherly greetings through the means at your disposal to the Guinean people. Thank you. Now I am listening to you.

[Sylla] Mr President, my name is Cheikh Sylla from the Guinea National Broadcasting Corporation. More and more French citizens are entering Guinea for various reasons. (?Among) those who have decided to adopt Guinea as their country, most have presented their case to President Lansana Conte, with the aim of playing an effective and practical role in Guinea's economic recovery.

[Mitterrand] Well, gentleman, who are the French citizens who are in Guinea or who intend to come there? There are several categories. First, there are France's official representatives, with our ambassador, which is very normal and quite routine, so I will not dwell on that. There are the technical assistants, who, following agreements between France and Guinea, have fulfilled precise tasks contributing to the development of this country. And then there are the French people who represent big enterprises in particular and teachers [words indistinct], those who participate in the development of Guinea by choice. [passage omitted]

I am talking here of the identity of cultures, language; Guineans have at their disposal not only their own culture, nourished from various sources, but also often aspire to French culture. Thus, to the French, this amounts to being in an environment which can please them, and which does please them. Furthermore, it is a country whose natural resources are (?enormous), with traditions of all kinds — I am thinking particularly of those of agriculture — and those powerful, established institutions which create an environment for business and trade. It is therefore quite normal for French nationals to be interested in them. I just met a few hundred of them yesterday evening during the reception organized at the French Embassy. [passage omitted]

[Toure] My name is (Sako) Tore of the Guinea News Agency. After the military took power in Guinea, you stated that cooperation between France and Guinea will serve as a model of Franco-African cooperation. Could you define in concrete terms in what fields you intend helping Guinea?

[Mitterrand] You have asked me a very broad question. I am personally familiar with Guinea, as a result of a certain number of trips I have made to it since 1947. I have returned to visit on several occasions, irrespective of the regime. The last time was in 1972. I am now returning to Guinea for the first time in my capacity as head of state. This means that I have experienced all the stages of the development of Guinea since the last world war, from the most difficult time of Guinea's relations with France to some aspects of its internal situation which has not always been smooth.

I don't claim to be a specialist on Guinea; there are many experts and eminent scholars who know Guinea better than I. But I have been able to observe and over the years cultivated such friendships in Guinea that I have some sort of sentiments for the Guinean people. As early as April 1984, I actually saw the movements which occurred in Guinea, and around the head of state and his governing team one can really see that they are determined to effect a profound change in the status quo and in terms of mentality. This is quite clear in the rural areas; but it also has repercussions in all other fields.

How can a French leader not be happy to see Guinea defend a certain number of principles which are dear to it. It is true Guinea has entered into the great movement of the African people; and without trying to speak for the Guinean people on the internal situation — it is not for me to do that, and it is not one of the issues I have come to discuss — I think the efforts of President Conte and his team are relentless, persevering, and intelligent, and should normally be supported by the Guinean people. Of course, since the economy is currently experiencing a period of redress, this calls for time; because passing from the first to the second republic and setting up different teams [words indistinct], but I have affirmed France's solidarity with those who are today assuming responsibility in Guinea. [passage omitted]

[Kante] Salioun Kante of the national newspaper *Horoya*. Mr President, in their relations with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, some African countries do not take into account their political realities and are faced with a dilemma: whether to fulfill the draconian conditions under pressure from these institutions or whether to adhere to the socioeconomic realities of their countries. What role can France, which is the spokesman of the Third World, play in these institutions to bring them to take more into consideration these realities?

[Mitterrand] The role that France can play is one of common sense. It is true that the IMF and the World Bank are institutions which play a major role in the world economy, and participate in the economic redress of many countries. These institutions cannot for a moment seriously contribute to economic redress by forgetting the rules of financial management. Why did I say it is a question of common sense? It is because financial rules do not often take into consideration human realities. On the one hand, we must have these rules, and on the other hand the people who benefit from the aid of the IMF should not be crushed by the conditions of the IMF. Common sense dictates that if the IMF intervention would bring about a popular uprising, then the IMF should adopt a timetable which would enable these people to survive. [passage omitted]

On the basis of these two preoccupations — I would prefer not to mention names of any countries so as not to embarrass them — but I think I can say that France was quite helpful in finding a fair middle ground between two contrary obligations.

[Diallo] My name is Boubacar Niasse Diallo, journalist at the national radio station. Two days ago, Pieter Botha, the head of apartheid, was in France. Although this was an unofficial visit, it disturbed several African leaders. What is your opinion on this, Mr President?

[Mitterrand] This is not the first time Mr Botha has visited France as part of his tour of Europe. The same issue came up a few years ago. Some South Africans died during the Second World War. There is a common principle to which we were committed — that of our freedom. Why should we deny a head of state who represents families to remember their dead; to pay their respects to the tombs of their soldiers? Moreover, France does not prohibit foreign personalities [words indistinct] to tread on French soil. The problem arises simply on an official level. Was France represented at the state level or by leaders of the state? [words indistinct] this was not accepted by France. There was no official ceremony involving France. [passage omitted]

[Name indistinct] [Mostly indistinct question on expulsion of Africans in France]

[Mitterrand] The problem was not really mentioned. It must be admitted that we have been here for only a few hours. It is possible that the question will be raised sufficiently in countries where there have been actual expulsions of their nationals living in France. If I am asked that question in those countries, I will respond. This issue did not come up for discussion in Guinea [words indistinct]. France is committed by international conventions; there are regulations and everywhere there is the universal declaration of human rights to which France must adhere.

But right from the beginning it must be admitted that those who benefit from these human rights must respect the laws of the land in which they live. Countries have the duty to ensure security; and if there are foreigners who indulge in smuggling of all kinds contrary to our laws, then [words indistinct]. Any more questions?

Well, in the absence of any more questions, I think we will have to part company. I thank you very much for your questions. I hope to see most of you in Togo, Mali, and Burkina Faso. [passage omitted]

Mitterrand Ends Visit

AB141546 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1945 GMT 13 Nov 86

[Excerpts] French President Francois Mitterrand and his wife left Conakry this afternoon at the end of their friendly visit to our country from 12 to 13 November. They were seen off by President and Mrs Henriette Conte, accompanied by members of the CMRN [Military Committee for National Redress] and of the government. [passage omitted]

As far as talks and discussions are concerned, there were many during the 24 hours of reunion, either between President Mitterrand and President Conte or between the two ministerial delegations. During their private talks, the two heads of state reviewed the wide spectrum of cooperation between France and Guinea, a cooperation which, according to Mr Mitterrand, professes to be a model in the North-South dialogue. In the same way and in accordance with directives from their presidents, the two ministerial delegations examined the best way of strengthening the friendship and cooperation between Conakry and Paris.

After this inter-ministerial meeting, Michel Aurillac, French minister of international cooperation, made the following observations about our cooperation to our reporter:

[Begin Aurillac recording] We noted that on many issues progress has been made, and especially the issue of expanding bank loans to Guinea's provinces, [words indistinct]. We also noted that a certain number of major investments are under way, and especially, I was able to confirm that France is actively involved in the resurfacing of roads in Conakry. We are also going to participate actively in the improvement of the water supply system. I was also able to settle a certain number of these issues which were pending, especially [words indistinct] notably the World Bank. We also reviewed cooperation in the field of education and culture. We particularly spoke about Guinea's vast progress made with Liberia in the exploitation of minerals in the Nimba Mountains. France will participate in that venture. [passage omitted] [end recording]

GUINEA-BISSAU

Fourth PAIGC Congress Held in Bissau 10-14 Nov

Liberal Economy Endorsed

AB142330 Paris AFP in French 1057 GMT 14 Nov 86

[By AFP special correspondent Jean Hountongbe]

[Text] Bissau, 14 Nov (AFP) — The endorsement of the new liberal orientation of Guinea-Bissau's economy constitutes one of the major results of the fourth congress of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC), which took place in Bissau from 10 to 14 November. According to the PAIGC leader and head of state, General Joao Bernardo Vieira, that orientation will prompt the disengagement of the state from several production and marketing activities and the intervention of the private sector after several years of state monopoly.

That new policy, which has already been implemented for 2 months, has been received with satisfaction, optimism, and also a bit of concern, observers in Bissau say. Indeed, though most of them have approved the change, following the first results (end of chronic lack of foodstuffs and goods), some militants, most of whom were trained in Eastern countries, have voiced their concern over the foreseeable consequences of the state disengagement. To dispel that concern, the congress requested the creation of mechanisms for determining traders' profit margins and expressed the need for price control and selecting the enterprises to work with. The new economic orientation, which has just been approved by the congress, should have positive effects on the productivity of the country's farmers, experts in Bissau affirm.

With the inflow of goods in the remotest areas, it could prompt farmers, who have benefitted from the appreciable hike of farm prices, to increase their production. The congress also reelected for a new 4-year term General Vieira as secretary general of PAIGC. That reelection is an endorsement of the pragmatic policy followed by the Guinea-Bissau head of state since he came to power on 14 November 1980 in the wake of a coup against President Luiz Cabral, observers note. The congress is expected to elect a Political Bureau (of 12 permanent and 4 alternate members), and a Central Committee (of 51 permanent and 10 alternate members). The structure of these two executive bodies is not modified so as "to have flexible bodies that can make quick decisions," it was learned from official sources.

Changes are, however, expected in the composition of these two bodies following the expulsion in recent months of several officials for embezzlement or participation in plots. Among these former officials are the former prime minister, Victor Saude Maria, whose release from prison was made public during the congress, and the former second in command of the regime, Colonel Paulo Correia, who was tried, sentenced, and executed last July. Finally, observers believe that national unity, which had been seriously jeopardized by Paulo Correia's abortive ethnic coup attempt, has become stronger during this congress.

New Political Bureau Elected

AB151137 Paris AFP in French 1041 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Here is the composition of the Political Bureau of the PAIGC, elected on Friday following the fourth congress of the party:

Permanent members:

-General Joao Bernardo Vieira (general secretary of the PAIGC, chairman of the State Council)

-Colonel Iafai Camara (minister of state for the Armed Forces)

-Vasco Cabral (minister of state for justice)

-Carlos Correira (minister of state for rural development and fisheries)

-Tiago Aleluia Lopes (minister of state at the Presidency)

-Carmen Pereira (speaker of the People's National Assembly)

-Fidelis Cabral de Almada (minister of education, culture, and sports)

-Colonel Manuel dos Santos (minister of trade and tourism)

-Jose Pereira (minister of security and public order)

-Coronel Jose Marc Vieira (chief of staff of the Armed Forces)

-Major Lourenco Gomes (commander of the police)

-Francisca Pereira (secretary general of the Guinea-Bissau Women's Union)

Alternate members:

-Mario Mendes (secretary general of the Guinea-Bissau Workers Union)

-Colonel Joseph Nancassa (chief of the political division of the Armed Forces)

-Mario Cabral (resident minister for the Northern Province)

-Filinto Barros (minister of natural resources and industry)

IVORY COAST

President Returns From Lome Summit 14 Nov

AB142140 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] The president returned to Abidjan late this afternoon from Lome, where he took part this morning in the opening ceremony of the 13th Franco-African summit.

France's Chirac, Raimond, Foccart Arrive

AB152200 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Excerpt] French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac arrived in Yamoussoukro this afternoon for a short visit. Our correspondent in Yamoussoukro, Ali Coulibaly has the report:

[Begin Coulibaly recording] French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac arrived in Yamoussoukro exactly 1 hour ago. He was a bit late since he was expected in Yamoussoukro at 1700. As you are aware, French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac was in Lome where he participated in the 13th summit of heads of state of Africa and France. It is likely that the closing session did not take place on time.

Prime Minister Jacques Chirac was met by Minister of State Camille Alliali and other members of the government. Minister of State Camille Alliali represented the head of state. The French prime minister is accompanied by the minister of foreign affairs, Jean Bernard Raimond and by Jacques Foccart, adviser on African affairs. This is the French prime minister's second visit to Ivory Coast since becoming head of the French Government on 16 March. His first visit abroad after his election was to Ivory Coast on 12 April and 8 months later he is visiting Yamoussoukro to hold talks with President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. He said on arrival that it was always a real pleasure for him to stop over in Yamoussoukro to hold talks with President Houphouet-Boigny because it is particularly interesting and enriching to hold talks with this great statesman. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Chirac Leaves for Paris

AB160749 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Excerpt] After the Lome summit of French and African heads of state, French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac yesterday visited Yamoussoukro. The French prime minister, who arrived in our political and administrative capital at 1830, held private talks with President Houphouet-Boigny before departing at 0015 [Sunday morning] for Paris. [passage omitted]

MALI

President Traore Returns From Lome Summit

AB142152 Bamako Domestic Service in French
2015 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Excerpt] President General Moussa Traore returned to Bamako this afternoon from Lome. The president, who participated in the Franco-African summit, was welcomed at Bamako-Senou Airport by General Amadou Baba Diarra, deputy secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People, members of the Central Executive Bureau, the government [words indistinct] and the diplomatic corps. [passage omitted]

French President Mitterrand Arrives for Visit

AB152148 Bamako Domestic Service in French
2015 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Excerpt] The president of the French Republic and Mrs Francois Mitterrand arrived in Bamako this afternoon for their first official visit to Mali. They were welcomed by the secretary general of the party [Democratic Union of Malian People] and president of the Republic and Mrs Moussa Traore; by the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, Mr Modibo Keita; the governor of the District of Bamako, Mr Yaya Bakayoko; and the French ambassador to Mali, His Excellency [name indistinct]. The entire capital was enlivened by the population which came out in droves to chant the names of the two presidents and to wish a happy stay to the president of the French Republic and his wife, Danielle Mitterrand. Mr Francois Mitterrand, though on his first visit here in his capacity as president of the French Republic, told our reporter Daouda Ndiaye that he is quite familiar with the great and beautiful country which Mali is. Listen to him.

[Begin recording] [Mitterrand] Mali is a country which one can never know well enough. It is a country which I appreciate. I am happy to come back here, although this is the first time that I come here as president of the Republic. I have desired it for a long time now, but circumstances have delayed this moment. I am very pleased to be with President Traore this evening, and with those who are welcoming the French delegation. You have a beautiful and great country that has its difficulties which we shall discuss. But what we know of the welcome of Africans, of Malians, is enough to let us believe that we are going to have a good visit here.

[Reporter] You will also visit Timbuktu?

[Mitterrand] Of course, that is true. Who has not heard of Timbuktu? Who has not seen famous pictures of it? We will have the great satisfaction of spending several hours there. [end recording]

President Francois Mitterrand is at this very moment meeting his compatriots residing in Mali. Beginning at 2100 hours GMT, he and his wife will be the guest at a dinner hosted by the Malian presidential couple at the Hotel de l'Amitie. Tomorrow, the president of the French Republic will lay a wreath at the War Memorial before flying in the company of General Moussa Traore to the mysterious city of Timbuktu. [passage omitted]

SENEGAL

President Returns From Franco-African Summit

AB150935 Dakar Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Excerpt] The president returned to Dakar late this afternoon from Lome where he attended the Franco-African summit. He was welcomed by members of the government, the speaker of the National Assembly and top ranking officers of the national Armed Forces. [passage omitted]

TOGO

Eyadema, GUNT Group Discuss Chad Reconciliation

AB161537 Lome Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] This morning at his private residence in Lome Two District the head of state received a delegation of the Transitional National Union Government of Chad, the GUNT. The 2-member delegation was led by Adoum Togoi, delegate of external relations of the GUNT Supreme Revolutionary Council, and included Ahmad Tailane, personal undersecretary of the GUNT president, Goukouni Oueddei.

The two GUNT envoys arrived at the Lome Two residence at 0755 in the company of Gbenyon Amegboh, member of the Central Committee and minister delegate to the Presidency in charge of information who also attended the meeting. After the talks with General Eyadema, the delegate of external relations of the GUNT Supreme Revolutionary Council spoke to the press. Mr Togoi said he had met the Togolese head of state to seek advice, as he is involved in the search for ways and means of uniting the Chadians. He also said that the GUNT armed forces were winning the battle against the attackers, the Libyan attackers, in the northern region and that they had arrested 300 prisoners. Mr Togoi also disclosed that his delegation held talks with President Hissein Habre here in Lome in view of the reconciliation of all the sons of Chad. Let us now listen to Goukouni Oueddei's envoy.

[Begin recording] [Togoi] We have come to see the Togolese president, Brother Eyadema, to seek advice on how to deal with the situation in the northern part of the country. President Eyadema has always contributed to the search for peace in Chad. The Chadian people remember Eyadema's peace efforts in 1980. During the war, President Eyadema went to Ndjamena by canoe, and we are also aware of President Eaydema's courage. That is why we are here. We have begun negotiations with Ndjamena, and as President Eyadema is concerned with the Chadian affair, we have also come to seek his advice about national reconciliation.

[Unidentified reporter] According to some information, the situation in northern Chad is of great concern. There is news of bloody clashes and acts of vengeance. Some even speak of genocide. What is the exact situation?

[Togoi] Since October, the GUNT forces have been fighting against the Libyan forces. The Libyans began bombing villages, people, and several areas. But militarily we have the situation under control. We have arrested nearly 300 Libyan soldiers. We arrested them in two stages: 100 and 200 in the first stage, and later 15, or rather 14. The last Libyan offensive was a failure so at present we have the situation under control.

[Reporter] We also learned that the GUNT president was seriously wounded, and in fact he earlier said that he was being held prisoner. At present, how is he faring and what is his situation?

[Togoi] At present he is no longer in danger. It is true that he was wounded by the Libyan security forces. At present he is in a Tripoli hospital called (Sal Hadjin). He is no longer in danger. We are also taking this opportunity to launch an appeal to all brotherly and friendly countries and to humanitarian organizations to bring pressure to bear on Libya to free President Goukouni and his close associates. We also made this request to our brother, Eyadema, to use his influence to obtain the release of President Goukouni.

[Reporter] It also appears that you have made peace with President Habre.

[Togoi] We have not reconciled with each other, but we are negotiating. We have now brought the situation prevailing in the northern part of the country under control. The internal problem is secondary to this one. We must face the external situation created by Libya, so we have also reached an oral agreement on a cease-fire, a nonaggression pact between our forces and their forces. With regard to reconciliation, we will meet in Brazzaville for national reconciliation in order to solve the Chadian problem in a concrete manner.

[Reporter] Have you met the Chadian president who is present in Lome within the framework of the Franco-African summit?

[Togoi] Yes, we have met him.

[Reporter] What did you discuss with the president?

[Togoi] This was a preliminary meeting to enable us to review the means of convening a round table conference to discuss (?our problems).

[Reporter] What was his response?

[Togoi] His response was positive. He is also ready to unite the people of the nation. Practical decisions will be made later.

[Reporter] Thank you. [end recording]

ANGOLA

SWAPO Denies SADF Attacks on Training Camp

MB151236 Dakar PANA in English 1215 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Luanda, 15 Nov (SWAPO/PANA) — SWAPO has denied claims that South African troops have attacked a SWAPO training camp in southern Angola killing SWAPO soldiers, according to a statement issued in Luanda today.

The statement described the South African claim as an absolute fabrication and utter nonsense, deliberately concocted to justify the recent South African aggression against Angola, whereby units of the South African Army have entered and are presently occupying areas in southern Angola. No single SWAPO soldiers was involved in any military encounter with the South African troops in the Angolan territory in recent days as claimed by the South African Defence Force (SADF), the statement concluded.

According to the South African news agency, thirty-nine SWAPO guerrillas in the Cunene area of southern Angola had been killed by the South African Defence Force.

LESOTHO

SAPA: Two Former Ministers Abducted, Killed

MB161712 Johannebsurg SAPA in English 1710 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Maseru Nov 16 SAPA — Five people, including two ministers in the deposed cabinet of Lesotho's former prime minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan, were shot and killed in the Roma district of Lesotho last night, according to a family member of one of the ex-ministers.

The former minister of information, Mr Desmond Sixishe, and the former foreign minister, Mr Vincent Makhele, together with both their wives and a male friend were reported to have been shot and killed after being abducted from the friend's home in Roma by armed men at about 11 pm last night.

Lesotho police have refused to comment on the report.

According to the family member, who did not want to be identified, Mr Sixishe's wife, Mrs Manapo Sixishe, and Mr Makhele's wife, Mrs Maliapeng Makhele were both killed in the incident. Mrs Sixishe was a niece of Chief Jonathan, he added.

The friend of the dead ministers was identified only as a Mr Lelala, an employee of the Extramural Services Department at the University of Lesotho in Roma. Mr Lelala's wife, a sister of Mrs Sixishe, was seriously wounded and has been admitted to the St John's Hospital at Roma, with multiple fracture.

The family member said the ministers and their wives were visiting the Lelala family at their home in Roma when the armed men arrived and abducted all six people. The captives were then driven up the mountain road into the Maluti mountains and shot.

Chief Leabua's government was overthrown by a military coup on January 20 after South Africa imposed strict border controls on rail and road traffic entering the landlocked kingdom.

Malebo Cannot Confirm Deaths

MB161831 Johannebsurg SAPA in English 1823 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Maseru Nov 16 SAPA — Lesotho's minister of information, Mr Vincent Malebo, tonight said four bodies were found in the Roma district last night but could not confirm that they included two former ministers of the deposed prime minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan.

Mr Malebo told SAPA he had heard a Radio Lesotho report that four bodies had been found near Roma and that the names of those killed would be released only after their next-of-kin had been informed. "The facts are that four bodies have been found by police," Mr Malebo said. He said the radio report had not given any details about how the four had died and that police were investigating.

Mr Malebo said the Ministry of Information would issue a statement concerning the deaths tomorrow.

Earlier reports from Maseru said the former minister of information, Mr Desmond Sixishe, and the former foreign minsiter, Mr Vincent Makhele, were among five people shot dead in the Maluti mountains last night after being abducted from a private home in Roma by armed men.

MOZAMBIQUE

Chissano Addresses Diplomatic Corps 14 Nov

MB142028 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1830 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Speech by President Joaquim Chissano to a meeting of the foreign diplomatic corps in Maputo on 14 November — recorded]

[Text] Your excellency Christian Masuku, ambassador of the Kingdom of Swaziland; members of the diplomatic corps; excellencies; members of the government of the People's Republic of Mozambique; ladies and gentlemen:

I am eternally thankful for the words that have just been addressed to me by the dean of the diplomatic corps. I am greatly honored by the trust and sympathy contained in these words, and I take the wishes and the sentiment of solidarity expressed with our people as the renovation of the long and fraternal embrace with which the international community has accompanied us during the moment of grief that envelops our country.

The death of President Samora Machel and the particularly painful and still unclear circurmstances in which it occurred constitute a tragic event that profoundly shocks the Mozambican nation. For many of our fellow countrymen, the tragedy that occurred at Mbuzini seemed like the closure of the horizon, thus seriously hindering prospects of peace, calm, and progress embodied in President Machel. Together with President Machel a number of our comrades also vanished, leaders and loyal party and state cadres. Your excellencies witnessed the countless manifestations of sorrow and desperation that took place in homes, on the streets, and everywhere from the moment it was announced that the presidential plane was missing up to the confirmation of the death of our beloved president. Your excellencies are also witnesses to the sympathy that surrounded us soon afterward, releasing us from sorrow and (?desperation).

We were not alone then. From all over the world came words and gestures of comfort and encouragement. Heads of state and government, statesmen, party and trade union leaders, grassroots organizations, support groups, all sorts of institutions, religious leaders, businessmen, artists, sportsmen, and all types of workers brought to Mozambique their unequivocal expression of solidarity. There were delegations at various levels, messages, support measures, and all sorts of homages. We are aware that this solidarity and warmth has rarely been expressed as widely and as earnestly as in the case of Mozambique. On this occasion I wish to express, through you, to the countries, peoples and organizations represented here and the international community as a whole our thanks and the profound recognition of the Mozambican people, the Frelimo Party, and the government of the People's Republic of Mozambique. We regard the true wave of sympathy that surrounded and comforted the Mozambican nation first as the recognition of the political stature of Samora Moises Machel and his contribution as a freedom fighter, founder of the Mozambican nation, a talented statesman with profound insight, protector of peace, and champion of the cause of emancipation of peoples and progress of humanity. We believe that in the various forms of support is expressed the sentiment of solidarity and appreciation for the People's Republic of Mozambique, a nation that, in a context of aggression and growing destabilization, defends and remains loyal to its principles as a sovereign, African, independent, nonaligned, and socialist country.

Members of the diplomatic corps, since its national independence the external policy of the People's Republic of Mozambique has been guided toward the struggle for peace, social progress, and harmonious relations with all countries of the world. We will continue to cooperate with all countries in the fulfillment of these principles on the basis of the principles of noninterference in the domestic affairs of other countries, mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, and equality and reciprocity of benefits as outlined in our constitution.

Southern Africa is a zone still plagued by tension and war, where peace efforts must continue to be made. We shall continue, within the context of the international community, particularly the Frontline States, to seek solutions to eradicate colonialism in Namibia and apartheid in South Africa. The end of South Africa's policy of destabilization and aggression against its neighbors is the fundamental condition for the establishment of peace in southern Africa.

In fulfilling our foreign policy, our diplomacy will continue to be guided by the realization of the principles and goals contained in the UN and OAU charters, and the vigorous role of the nonaligned countries. The People's Republic of Mozambique will continue to contribute to the search for ways of reducing political tension in areas plagued by insecurity and war. Peace constitutes one of the greatest aspirations of the People's Republic of Mozambique. That is why we are for general and complete disarmament. We will continue to make efforts so that concrete measures are adopted to transform the Indian Ocean into a peaceful and denuclearized zone. The People's Republic of Mozambique will remain loyal to its policy of relations of friendship and cooperation with all nations regardless of their social and political systems.

Members of the diplomatic corps, economic development, social progress and well-being of peoples and countries in our region depend necessarily on breaking with the relations of dependence imposed by colonialism. Together with the other countries that are victims of this dependency, the People's Republic of Mozambique is involved in the struggle for economic independence through the development of regional cooperation in the context of SADDC. SADDC is the fundamental instrument for the realization of our desire of being independent and to promote our own development. SADCC is not a declaration of war against any state in the region. It is aimed at creating conditions for the rapid development of our countries. In this framework we hail the support given by the international community, particularly the meaningful efforts that have been made to ensure the operation of the means of communication and promote their development and upgrading. The transportation network plays a strategic role in the SADCC project.

Whereas the Republic of South Africa recognizes that importance, it defines communication routes as primary targets for the armed bandits in its service. The destruction of railroads and the disruption of highways have been the means used by Pretoria to maintain, increase, and even create dependence of the hinterland [preceding word in English] countries on the South African ports and rail and road networks. Accordingly, countries situated far from South Africa, like Malawi, and contrary to all economical and geographic reasoning, are forced to depend on South African ports for access to the sea. Malawi's natural access routes to the sea are the Nacala and Beira ports, but they have been blocked through the systematic sabotage of railroads.

Members of the diplomatic corps, the case of Malawi clearly demonstrates the Machiavellian machinations to which our country and others in the region have been subjected. A landlocked country which is highly dependent on Mozambique for its access to the sea, Malawi has been transformed into a launching pad for armed bandits who destabilize our country and destroy those access routes to the sea. Despite the evidence of these actions directed by Pretoria's warmongering circles, the People's Republic of Mozambique, in line with its policy of peace and good-neighborliness with all countries in the region, has made and will continue to make persistent efforts in the diplomatic field to make Malawi break with the impositions made by Pretoria and observe the principle of good-neighborliness with Mozambique.

The personal efforts of President Samora Moises Machel were aimed not only at persuading the Malawi Government to break with the mentors and promoters of war and destabilization of our region, but also clearly seeking to make Malawi involve itslef in the struggle against Pretoria agents. This was done in the interests of Malawi and of peace in the region. This fully consistent policy of peace and the persistent diplomatic action of President Samora Moises Machel is now being presented by the same circles and the mentors of war and destabilization as a conspiracy against Malawi.

Ours has never been a policy of war. It has always been a policy of peace. Ours has never been a policy of aggression and invasion against neighboring countries. It has always been a policy of good-neighborliness, coexistence, and cooperation. Ours has never been a policy of respect for their sovereignty. That is why we have nothing to change in our policy and why we will remain loyal and consistent with those principles.

There is only one country in southern Africa that promotes war and destabilization. There is only one country that attacks, invades, interferes, and colonizes. That country is South Africa. That is why it is South Africa, the internationally condemned Pretoria regime, that must change its policy and apply universally accepted principels of peace, good-neighborliness and peaceful coexistence.

Excellencies, when the sovereignty and territorial integrity of a country are at state it is a sacred duty to fight with all means to defend the fatherland and the state. Sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of Mozambique have been put at stake by a policy of destabilization, aggression and invasion. It is our sacred duty to defend by all means our sovereignty, independence, and the territorial integrity of our country. This is what we must do from Rovuma river to Maputo river, and in Zambezia, Tete, Sofala we defend our sovereignty and territorial integrity with all means at our disposal.

We do not want war with Malawi. We want peace, Malawi must, therefore, stop being a base of destabilizing our country and embark on a policy of good-neighborliness and cooperation with Mozambique.

Members of the diplomatic corps, the circumstances of the tragic death of President Samora Moises Machel still need to be clarified. At the time when the airplane in which President Machel crashed in the South African territory, the South African Government hastily announced that it was a mere accident. However, this conclusion, which was so rapidly divulged by the information machine in the service of Pretoria, was not followed by the rapid availability of elements which permit the confirmation of the causes of the air crash in an objective, pratical, and rapid manner. Instead we are witnessing a full-fledged process marked by unjustifiable and delaying tactics designed to prolong the enquiry. The pressing need of our people and the international community to know what the causes of the airplane crash were is met with press conferences which, far from dealing with the true causes of the disaster, are devoted to putting the victims on trial. Our people and the international community demand that the ongoing enquiry should have immediate access to the elements that permit a check of the causes of the crash, because nobody will forget that President Samora Moises Machel died in South African territory while on a combat mission against apartheid.

Members of the diplomatic corps, through your excellencies we appeal to the international community as a whole to make efforts to put an end to the policy of destabilization and war being waged by Pretoria against the People's Republic of Mozambique and other countries in the region. This responsibility must be embodied by all countries of the world in the interests of international peace and security. Action by your excellencies is decisive in the attainment of this goal.

In resuming the normal activities of our lives and state institutions, we wish to assure your excellencies that the president of the People's Republic of Mozambique will continue to work directly with the diplomatic corps in order to achieve peace, progress, cooperation and well-being for the peoples. I wish your excellencies good health and many successes in the fulfillment of your noble missions.

I beg you to accompany me in a toast to the health of the distinguished heads of state that your excellencies represent, and the health of your excellencies and wives. The struggle continues, and many thanks. [applause]

Crash Commission Holds Talks on Black Boxes

MB141245 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] A South African delegation headed by Piet de Klerk is holding talks in Maputo with Mozambican, Soviet, and ICAO [International Civil Aviation Organization] investigation commission members. According to a Mozambican source, the meeting is to find a solution for handing over the black boxes, which are in South Africa. We recall that on Monday [10 Nov] the South African delegation met the international investigation commission, but nothing came of that meeting because South Africa demanded that the black boxes be decoded outside the USSR.

Agreement on Decoding Reached

MB151159 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1100 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Almost a month after the plane crash in South Africa which killed Mozambican President Samora Machel, agreement has been reached in the process of decoding the wrecked Tupolev-134's black box flight recorder. The agreement was reached on Friday night in Maputo after more than 10 hours of negotiations between teams from Mozambique, the Soviet Union, South Africa, and the ICAO, the International Civil Aviation Organization. The process agreed upon deals with the tape recording at Maputo Airport of the communications between the Tupolev crew and the airtraffic control tower and two types of recorders on board the aircraft, the DEDR — digital flight data recorders — and CVR — cockpit voice recorder. The agreement lays down an exact sequence of read out and analysis.

First, the Maputo tower tape recording will be played back to representatives of Mozambique, the USSR, anad South Africa, who will be allowed to record the information played back. Then the Soviet Union will arrange for Mozambican and South African experts to visit relevant decoding facilities in the Soviet Union and obtain relevant information. While this is being done, preparations will be made in a mutually agreed upon fourth country for reading out the data on the cockpit voice recorder.

General Accuses Malawi of Lying About MNR

MB150651 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] A Mozambican general who participated in the summit on 11 September in Blantyre has accused Malawi of lying about links with the South African-backed MNR bandits. Major General Americo Mpfumo, military commander [of] Mozambique's northwesten province of Tete, says in a interview with the Mozambican news agency, AIM, in Tete City, that during the summit Malawi had admitted its support for the bandits. The summit was held between the three Frontline leaders — Samora Machel of Mozambiuqe, Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, and Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia — on one side, and Malawi's life President Kamuzu Banda, on the other. General Mpfumo remarked on Malawi's repeated denial that it offers sanctuary to the MNR. He said: What do you expect of someone who is involved in such a shameful and demeanable acts as support for terrorism.

Defense Forces Reaffirm Solidarity With Chissano

MB151322 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1800 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Message from the Mozambique Defense and Security Forces to President Chissano on 13 November, read by Defense Minister Alberto Chipande — recorded]

[Excerpts] Chairman of the Frelimo Party, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, and commander in chief, we, combatants of the Mozambican Armed Forces-FPLM under your command and the Mozambique's Peoples Police and security, have come to warmly greet our commander in chief, Joaquim Alberto Chissano, comrade of the first hour of Eduardo Mondlane and Samora Machel. Patriot and intransigent defender of the legitimate aspirations of the Mozambican people from Rovuma to Maputo, firm leader of the Mozambican revolution, comrade, commander in chief, the Mozambican people from Rovuma to Maputo still mourn the tragic accident that killed our dear president, Marshal Samora Machel. We all pledge to transform our deep sorrow into strength, courage, and determination to continue the grand work already initiated. [passage omitted]

We will fight resolutely and will continue to make the bush our theater of operations until the final defeat of the enemies of the people and revolution, the armed bandits. Esteemed comrade, commander in chief, the defense and security forces are responsible for the rigorous fulfillment of the main and basic task in the current phase of our revolutionary process the defense of our sovereingty, territorial integrity and national independence so arduously conquered. [passage omitted] Comrade, commander in chief, we, combatants of the Mozambican Armed Forces-FPLM, of the police and security forces, came here to tell you that we are ready to receive your orders and to continue our combat against the enemies of the Mozambican people and revolution. We will continue with our struggle for peace, fighting relentlessly against the armed bandits and their bosses until we accomplish their total annihilation. We reaffirm our pledge to obey the constitution, to carry out party and government orders, to respect and make everyone respect the law, and to defend national unity and the Mozambican revolution. The flame of internationalism will be a guiding light in our march in the common struggle for peace, liberty, justice and development in Africa and the world in general.

Esteemed comrade, Joaquim Alberto Chissano, chairman of the Frelimo Party, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, commander in chief: in the name of the defense and security forces, we wish our dear commander in chief, Joaquim Alberto Chissano, good health, a long life, and many successes in the execution of his difficult task as leader of the Mozambican nation and, in particular, of the defense and security forces. At your orders, commander in chief! The struggle continues!

Chissano Accepts Pledge

MB152031 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1800 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Speech by Joaquim Alberto Chissano, chairman of the Frelimo Party, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, and commander in chief of the Mozambican Armed Forces, to members of the Mozambican Armed Forces in Maputo on 13 November — recorded]

[Excerpts] Independence or death! [Crowd: We will win, we will win, we will win!] Independence or death! [Crowd: We will win, we will win, we will win!] Struggle continues! [Crowd: continues, continues, continues!] Struggle continues! [Crowd: Continues, continues, continues!]

Comrades, officers of the Mozambican Armed Forces, officers of the police forces and security, you are here representing thousands and thousands of our combatants who today are fighting the enemy of our fatherland, the enemy of our revolution in the bush. [passage omitted] We want to praise the patriotism of these combatants who showed to the world that the Mozambican people know and will always know how to guarantee the defense and continuity of their existence. Grief for us will never mean demoralization, the death of a leader will never mean defeat to our people because we are dedicated to winning the war and to strengthening our independence, our sovereignty, our territorial integrity, and our struggle for peace. We are creating conditions for the economic and social progress of our country. We know the difficult conditions faced now by our combatants. We know that they lack the most essential commodities, but they continue fighting, following the tradition of the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique. [passage omitted]

It is our duty to do everything possible to ease hardships and speed the achievement of victory. The first task is, as the comrades have said, to intensify the reorganization of our forces, organize more efficient supply lines so that the few resources we have can reach the combatants, reorganize our forces in order to have a better command structure so that our orders will reach our forces more quickly, thus guaranteeing an efficient command, discipline, and coordination. This task was begun by our beloved comander in chief, Samora Moises Machel. We must continue it. Our second task is to reorganize even better the structures of command, our hierarchy within the forces to guarantee that same discipline. In a word, we must stress the importance of organization within our armed forces.

Comrades: We are fighting a sinister enemy. We must claerly define our enemy. We must classify our target. Today, our enemy is the apartheid system. It is the apartheid system which organizes and leads the armed bandits. This is our enemy. The apartheid system destabilizes our country socially, economically, and politically. It is the apartheid system which organizes the aggression.

Thus, we must be cautious against its divisionist maneuvers. Our enemy will not appear, will not show itself to the world. He will seek to create divisions among us, among our forces. We must reject the maneuvers of our enemy. He will create tribal conflicts. Let us learn from the experience of the armed struggle for national liberation, and let us defeat enemy maneuvers. Let us close ranks.

Our armed forces, our defense and security forces have only one goal — to preserve peace, terrirtorial integrity, sovereignty, and the independence of our country. Our armed forces have not, and never had any tendency toward aggressiveness; they are defense forces. Since the creating of the Mozambique Liberation Front, the department that led the actions for the liberation of Mozambique was named Department of Defense because we never were geared for aggression. Today we are facing many pressures, many provocations. They want to portray us as aggressive forces, trying to disguise their own characteristics. The aggressor now claims to be the attacked party. We will not accept that blackmail. This will not scare us. We will defend our sovereignty, our territorial integrity. This is our sole goal, to defend peace. This was always our aim; hence we want to thank you now for your reengagement, your pledge, and I, as your commander in chief, will try everything possible to provide adequate guidelines to speed victory. [passage omitted]

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Claims 18 RSA Dead in Attack on Base

MB171151 Dakar PANA in English 1059 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Luanda, 17 Nov (PANA) — Eighteen South African soldiers were killed and several others wounded when combatants of the Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia, (PLAN), the military wing of SWAPO, launched an artillery attack on the South African military base at Eenhana, northen Namibia on 15 Nov, according to SWAPO's war communique issued in Luanda today.

The base was heavily devasted. Some war materials were captured, the communique said.

The base had just been rebuilt after it was attacked by PLAN fighters with mortars, rockets and machine gun fire on 29 June this year.

SOUTH AFRICA

Defense Forces Kill 39 SWAPO in Angola 13 Nov

MB141558 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1557 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] Windhoek Nov 14 SAPA — Units of the South African Defence Force operating from SWA/Namibia shot dead 39 SWAPO insurgents in an attack on a SWAPO military base in the Cunene province of southern Angola yesterday, the officer commanding the SWA Territory Force, Major-General Georg Meiring, said in Windhoek today.

Two members of the security forces died in the action, but there had been no armed contact with the forces of Angola's MPLA Government.

The attack by "elements of the SA Army" was launched after information had been obtained that SWAPO's military wing, PLAN — the People's Liberation Army of Namibia — was training insurgents at the base in preparation for the annual infiltration by SWAPO into SWA/Namibia, the general said in a statement.

The latest SWAPO fatalities brought to 606 the number of insurgents killed to date this year, Gen Meiring said in a statement. Last year a total of 599 SWAPO insurgents were "eliminated" by the SWA/Namibia security forces, he said.

Pik Botha Gives Details of Black Box Agreement

MB161853 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Details have been released regarding the agreement reached between South African, Mozambican, and Soviet civil aviation investigation teams on the air crash in which Mozambican President Samora Machel died.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha said tonight that Mozambique will send a copy of the voice recording betweeen the crew of the aircraft and the Maputo control tower to the South African investigating team early this week. Experts from South Africa and Mozambique will then leave for Moscow to inspect the equipment that will be used to decode the flight deck recording and the flight data recording.

Mr Botha said the next step will be to take the flight deck recording to a country acceptable to all three parties for decoding by technical means. These means will either be made available by a Western country or by the USSR. After the flight deck recording has been decoded, one of the two identical recorders will be taken to Moscow for decoding in a Soviet laboratory. This laboratory is, according to information available to South African Government, the only laboratory where the decoding can take place. The South African Government has the right to choose which one of the two identical flight data recorders will be taken to Moscow for decoding. The other recorder will remain in South Africa. The fourth recorder, which might also contain flight data, will also remain in South African hands.

Mr Botha said it will still have to decided what will be done with this recorder when the other steps have been completed. He said efforts are being made to involve experts from other countries in decoding the recordings, and indications are that such experts could become available.

Swiss To Provide Facilities

MB141514 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1510 GMT 14 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 14, SAPA — South African authorities have received confirmation from the republic's mission in Berne that Switzerland had agreed it would "make facilities" available to decode the cockpit voice recorder of the crash plane in which Mozambican President Samora Machel died last month, a spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs said in Pretoria today.

He emphasised Swiss authorities or aviation experts would in no way be involved in the actual investigation being conducted jointly by South Africa, the Soviet Union and Mozambique into the cause of the crash. "They have only agreed to make available certain facilities."

The spokesman was responding to a report from Berne earlier today that Switzerland had denied it had agreed to "help decode" the recording device. Mr Claude Clement of the Federal Transport and Energy Department told the *Swiss News Agency* [SDA] that a South African request for assistance had been rejected because Switzerland "lacked the technical means." He was quoted as saying the head of the South African Civi Aviation Department had asked his Swiss counterpart for assistance some time ago, but had been turned down.

The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said in a statement last night to SAPA the Swiss were willing to provide facilities and technicians to assist in the recorder decoding.

According to government sources in Pretoria, the Swiss authorities had "slightly misunderstood" Mr Botha's statement, which had not been specific, to the effect that Swiss authorities were supposed to have agreed to assist in the investigation.

Commentary Reaffirms Blamelessness in Crash

MB170844 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Soviets have now climbed on to the accusation bandwagon with the claim that South Africa had lured President Samora Machel's plane from its course and caused it to crash inside South African territory. The allegation has been dismissed with the contempt it deserves by President P.W. Botha, who described it as propaganda.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha added that the investigation currently underway would show what caused the presidential Soviet-built Tupolev aircraft to crash. To this end a joint commission of inquiry has been set up by South Africa, Mozambique, and the Soviet Union. Heading up the inquiry is South African Supreme Court judge Mr Justice C.S. Margo. Mozambican high court judge Paulo Muchanga is the head of the Mozambican inquiry team.

As the crash occured in its territory, South Africa has full jurisdiction over the wreckage and the findings of the crash. Mozambique, the country in which the plane was registered, and the Soviet Union, the country in which it was built, have certain rights.

Because of the wild allegations from many African and other quarters that South Africa was somehow responsible for the crash, South Africa is quite naturally taking every precaution possible to ensure a scrupulously fair and proper investigation. An essential ingredient for this is the involvement of a neutral country in which the aircraft's cockpit voice recorder could be transcribed in the presence of South African, Mozambican, and Soviet investigators. Various countries including the United States and Britain were approached. The response was discouraging to say the least, and nothing short of cowardly in respect of the United States and Britain. It has been left to Switzerland in the very essence of neutrality to agree to host and oversee the decoding of the Tupolev's cockpit voice recorder. South Africa would hardly go to all these lengths to ensure a clinically correct verdict if there was any question of its culpability.

P.W. Botha Returns From Visit to France, Madeira

MB151028 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1020 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 15 SAPA — More had to done in South Africa to enable people to build their own houses, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said today.

Commenting on his return to South Africa after a six-day visit to France and Madeira, he said at a press conference held at the Jan Smuts Airport, that the housing conditions on the Portuguese island had particularly impressed him. There was very little state sponsored housing on the island although private ownership was prevalent. "Madeira is an island of private ownership ... the people build their own houses, sometimes under very difficult conditions, but they are of a good quality. We must do more in South Africa to enable people to build their own houses and there must be less housing by the state. Private ownership is perhaps the answer," said Mr Botha.

The state president said he and his entourage were "glad to be back" in South Africa although "it was an exceptinally interesting week for us". He had received a warm welcome from many old friends in France when he went to the Delville Wood Memorial at Langueval, and in Madeira there had been only goodwill from the people who had given him and his party an enthusiastic welcome.

Responding to a question, Mr Botha said he would not have extended his tour to other European countries, as he did in June 1984, if it had been possbile to do so. "No, I could not find the time... I would not have gone there if it had not been for the (Delville Wood Memorial) function," Mr Botha said.

Mr Botha also related an incident during the ceremony at Delville Wood when a French farmer had come to him and presented him with a brass button from a Natal regiment which he had dug up in his fields and polished. "I will hand this over to one of the South African museums," said Mr Botha.

Replying to another question, Mr Botha said he could not comment on yesterday's reported clash between SWAPO guerrillas and South African Defence Force in Angola's Cunene Province. "I am not properly informed yet... I have only just stepped off the plane."

Commentary Lauds Citizens Role in ANC Fight

MB170540 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The police have called on the public to be especially alert in the festive season ahead in case of an escalation of ANC terrorism.

It is up to every South African to be aware of the danger, especially in a period in which the ANC invariably exploits the holiday atmosphere to intensify and dramatize this most cowardly dimension of its activities.

The remarkable record of the South African Police in averting terrorist incidents and bringing to book the perpetrators of such deeds is due in no small measure to the cooperation of the public — of all communities — and maintaining it requires continuing vigilance.

That the police have maintained their record in this particular year is especially significant. This year marks the 25th anniversary of Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation], the section formed by the ANC with the express purpose of engaging in acts of terrorism. as a result the organisation declared 1986 to be the year of Umkhonto we Sizwe — a year in which it proposed to pursue the strategy of terrorist violence on a vast scale throughout the country. In fact there was a substatinal increase in the number of incidents, more than 200 up to October.

But in its real objective — engulfing the country in a continuous wave of terrorism — the ANC failed completely.

This was partly due to police successes in tracking down arms caches stored by ANC cadres for later use, and effectively disarming them in advance. The large quantities of weapons uncovered included RPG rockets and launchers, and several hundred mines, hand grenades, and AK-47 rifles.

Another obvious factor has been the high success rate in catching those responsible for acts of terrorism. In fact all but a few of the recent cases have already been solved: More than a hundred suspected terrorists have been arrested and 48 have died in shootouts with the police.

It is important that terrorists should know that they will not get away with their crimes, and that message is conveyed very clearly by the statistics.

Police spokesmen have pointed out that such a record would not have been possible were it not for the exceptionally high level of cooperation from members of the public. Whether in the prevention of terrorism — by reporting timeously what may turn out to be an explosive device — or in volunteering information that may assist in follow-up work, the support of the public makes a crucial difference.

In South Africa that support is widespread among all communities. Coupled with an awareness of the nature of the threat, it is the force that ultimately guarantees a society's survival against terrorism.

Police Attack Striking GM Workers Outside Plant

MB171016 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0900 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Sixteen workers and a police officer were injured in a confrontation between security forces and striking workers outside the GM plant in Port Elizabeth this morning.

There was conflict between striking workers and work seekers trying to enter the plant early this morning. Some were persuaded not to go in and others were insulted and chased away. At 0730, police warned the strikers that the gathering was illegal. They were given 5 minutes to disperse. The strikers ignored the order and journalists watched as police with sjamboks [whips] and dogs charged them. The strikers ran in all directions and those brought down by the dogs were loaded into police vans.

Major Eddie Everson, police liaison officer for the eastern Cape, confiremd the police action and the arrests. He said a policeman was injured after being stoned.

Union officials are still waiting for reports from their members. They said the strikers will meet outside the factory again tomorrow morning.

Information Bureau Releases Unrest Reports

15 Nov Report Issued

MB150824 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0800 GMT 15 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria Nov 15 SAPA — The following is the Bureau for Information, Pretoria's, unrest report for the period 0600 November 14 to 0600 November 15:

"Apart from the landmine incident in which an Alldays farmer and his son were injured yesterday afternoon, no other serious incidents took place during the above period.

"In Soweto, however, more 30 buses were stoned in separate incidents during the course of the day.

"No serious injuries or any expensive damage was reported.

"The condition of eight-year-old Pieter van Der Westhuizen, who was injured in the landmine explosion while travelling with his father on their farm near the Botswana border, was this morning described as still serious but stable. Pieter received head and internal injuries and was admitted to the Pietersburg hospital after first having been treated at the Alldays hospital.

"His 34-year-old father received minor injuries and shock in the explosion, which took place when their light bakkie [van] detonated the landmine, and has since been released from hospital."

16 Nov Report Issued

MB160855 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0853 GMT 16 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria Nov 16 SAPA — The following is the unrest report from the Bureau for Information, Pretoria, for the period 06h00 yesterday to 06h00 today.

"Two people died in unrest-related incidents during the above period.

"In Durban a man died after occupants of a police vehicle were stoned and in the Eastern Province a former member of the South African Police was killed when his house was attacked.

"The incident in Durban took place after a meeting of the Metal Allied Workers Union at Curries Fountain attended by a large crowd.

"After the meeting several people surrounded a police vehicle and began stoning it.

"One policeman was struck with a brick.

"The police fired several tearsmoke cannisters but their assailants continued attacking them.

"Six birdshot rounds were fired.

"One person was killed and six were injured.

"The former policeman killed was Mr Edward Ndjada, 45, who died when his home was set alight in Lingelihle near Cradock.

"Stonings of buses continued in Soweto and three drivers were robbed of their fare.

"One bus was also stolen after the driver was forced out."

17 Nov Report Issued

MB171022 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1018 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria Nov 17 SAPA — Herewith the Bureau for Information's unrest report for the period 6 am yesterday to 6 am today:

"In Sebokeng (Vereeniging) yesterday, a black man attacked a security force member with a knife. The member fired a shot in self-defence, killing the assailant.

"At Brandfort, in the Free State, a group of approximately 50 black persons refused to disperse when requested to do so by the security forces. The latter then fired tearsmoke into the illegal gathering and arrested a man and a woman.

"Four incidents of stoning of buses were reported in Soweto while isolated incidents of stoning and petrol bomb attacks on private vehicles and homes occurred elsewhere. Little damage was caused and no arrests were made."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

15 Nov Press Review

MB150518 [Editorial report]

CITIZEN Considers Sanctions Against Zimbabwe

Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 14 November, in a page 6 editorial, considers possible South African responses to Zimbabwe's "plan to get the American package of sanctions accepted by the United Nations Security Council." "We do not know whether South Africa will retaliate, or whether it will, in the words of a Department of Foreign Affairs source quoted at the weeekend, make a studied and non-provocative response." Any response "might have to concern even more fundamental issues, like the flow of traffic across the border, the use of South Africa's transport and rail services to move Zimbabwean imports and exports, and the continuation or otherwise of trade with Zimbabwe. Clearly over-reacting at this point would be as bad as not acting at all." "Zimbabwe cannot have it both ways — hit South Africa and expect South Africa to turn the other cheek."

PFP Congress Promises 'Total Review'

An article by Brian Stuart on page 13 notes that "a total review of the Progressive Federal Party's constitutional policy is likely following next week's PFP Federal Congress." Among other things, the PFP will set up a new constitutional committee. A number of motions may deal with Regional Services Councils, the possibility of a South African bill of rights, and guidelines for the establishment of a tricameral parliament. "Regadring the Cabinet as an executive authority, some PFP members feel that the party should consider proposing 'proportional representation with a rotating chairmanship.' This would make the executive a representative body rather than a Cabinet appointed on a winner-takes-all basis."

STAR Applauds Private School Holdout

Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 14 November, in a page 12 editorial, comments on the use of private school subsidization "as a whip" by the government. "If the private schools refused to limit their intake of black pupuls or to submit to other controls, there would be no money for them." "But to their everlasting credit the schools stood by their principles." "Government yielded in stages and controversial racial clauses have been abandoned." "The outcome is to be applauded because of the courageous stand of the schools; because education must not be regimented; and because in some small measure an important element of our society has eluded the authoritarian hand."

TUCSA Dissolution Leaves Unions Homeless

An article by Sheryl Raine on the same page previews the situation among trade unions when "the dissolution of the Trade Union Council of SA (TUCSA) ... will leave a number of unions with no natural home to go to on the left or right." "Tough choices await middle-of-the-road unions which may feel the need for affiliation to strengthen their position." Options include: The United Workers Union of South Africa, "which had dubious political credentials"; the "declining SA Confederation of Labor ... the home of all-white unions"; COSATU, "a predominantly black ... basicially socialist" group; and the "newly formed Councils of SA Unions-Azanian Confederation of Trade Unions ... with Black Consciousness leanings." "It is highly unlikely that former TUCSA affiliates would be comfortable (or welcome?)" in this latter organization. "Virtually the only options left to former TUCSA-TIES are alliances with particular industrial sectors."

BUSINESS DAY: Proof Group Areas 'Failure'

"If South Africa actually needs evidence that the Group Areas Act is a failure and a travesty of natural order," then a recently completed study proves it, says a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 14 November. "Researchers found that 24 percent of the population of Johannesburg's three most densely populated 'white' aeas are in fact black, and that blacks are already in the majority in Mayfair. How quiet a revolution this has been." "The people of this country, left alone by the politicians, have quietly got on with adapting. Proof, surely, that the prospect of change is so very often worse than the reality. And a shining signpost that we no longer need this hateful law."

Western Aid for RSA

An article by John Battersby in London on the same page examines "positive measures" against apartheid which countries like the United Kingdom have proposed. Western organizations, in the hope of staving off sanctions which are seen as potentially harmful to blacks, pursue this strategy with enthusiasm. "But it is accepted all-round that the Marshall Aid package is a long-term game plan which cannot be put together overnight. There is also growing realisation among its proponents of the acutely sensitive diplomacy needed to with both the support of the South African government and black opposition for such programmes. The dilemma is that public government support guarantees black rejection." Last week's meeting of business leaders called by State President P.W. Botha "would indicate that there was very little" support from industry for government initiatives designed to end apartheid. Western business is said to support South African business "efforts to effect fundamental change and the dismantling of apartheid," but "are still looking for a tangible signal" that the RSA Government is willing to go along. "Pretoria has never looked more politically barren from these shores."

BUSINESS DAY: Disinvestment Benefits Mixed

"The current perception, among those who perceive such things, is that the continuing disinvestment wave — if it has any effect at all — will work to SA's best interests," comments Keith Hammonds in a page 6 *Business Day* column. Abandoned subsidiaries serve "only to make wealthy SA businessmen wealthier." U.S. companies will maintain service contracts, "management stays the same, and employment has been little affected ...." "The current perception is accurate in most ways — but shortsighted." "In effect, disinvestment may well remove barriers to market efficiency — but at a very large cost to the non-white population." "Leaders of local organisations that benefit from U.S. corporate aid doubt they will recover from other sources the funding lost to disinvestment." "If the gradual erosion of wages at these companies and a decline in social responsibility spending occurs, the markets in which they operate should become more efficient" "But the offsetting costs in terms of the welfare of black workers and the viability of educational and community programmes that U.S. companies have sponsored... could be enormous."

CAPE TIMES Predicts Endless Violence

Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 13 November, in a page 12 editorial, regrets that the most recent "despicable act of terrorism," the Newcastle bombing, "will fade from public awareness, no doubt, as the Bureau for Information continues to play down the conditions of endemic violence" in South Africa. Unrest is "under-reported," and "at the root of the Bureau's propaganda campaign is the government's self-deluding belief that the violence is a temporary condition and will soon be stamped out." "It is rather more likely, in fact, that the violence will persist until there is a truce and a genuinely negotiated settlement involving the ANC, Inkatha and all significant segments of black political opinion. Why not get on with it?"

Afrikaner 'Imperialism' in Schools

"The government can no longer ignore the growing number of leading Cape Town schools where parents have voted overwhelmingly in favour of breaking down racial barriers in the classroom," says a second editorial on the same page. "Yet the government insists on imposing its racist 'own affairs' system on the majority of South Africans who want nothing of it. This government arrogance amounts to nothing less than Afrikaner Nationalist imperialism."

SOWETAN: RSA Befriended by 'Banana Republics'

Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 14 November, in the page 9 "Joe's Burg" column, notes that President P.W. Botha "went on a jaunt to Europe, and ended up being feted by the regional government of Madeira." The "state President of this great country has to hobnob with heads of little regional governments and heads of banana republics in South America." "The rest of the Western world will now not even be seen at our funeral, let alone be seen to be speaking to us." "And who will be responsible for the mess that today's government has got us into? Those leaders, like the State President, who believe genuinely, or at least tell their constituencies so, that this country is far too strong to be ignored completely."

CITY PRESS on Black Education Tension

"The tension between the Department of Education and Training (DET) and the National Education Crisis Committee (NECC) does not augur well for attempts being made to find a solution to the present school crisis," says a page 2 editorial in Johannesburg *City Press* in English on 16 November (as published). The paper appeals to the DET Deputy Minister Sam de Beer to "respond positively to NECC calls for a round-table conference to sort out the school crisis." "Any attempt by the DET to solve the problem on its own will never succeed." The paper notes that the community is "well-represented in the NECC," and that the community's involvmement is of critical importance.

16 Nov Press Review

MB160510 [Editorial report]

WEEKLY MAIL: Military Not Taken Over Country

On page 10 of Johannesburg *Weekly Mail* in English on 14-20 November (as published) Phillip van Niekerk interviews the chief of the South African Defence Force, General Jainnie Geldenhuys, who says the "conflict situation in the country means the military is consulted by the government more often than it would be in 'other times,'" but he denies that the military have taken over the country. Geldenhuys says that because of the Angolan war and because of the attacks on terrorist bases in diffrent countries it is "an absolutely natural phenomenon that in such cases the military do get more consulted than in other times." Concerning the military involvement in townships, Geldenhuys says if the unrest stops then the military involvement will stop. He also points out that the police are intent on enlarging their numbers. "Once they have sufficient numbers to cope with the situation, and as they increase their numbers, the Defence Force commitment will correspondingly probably be scaled down." However, Geldenhuys sees the unrest continuing for "some time," and he attributes this to unemployment and "meaningful change which is taking place." "As soon as you come with significant change, one of the byproducts is always fear of the unknown, the resistance to change, fear of where it is all leading to, polarisation, uncertainty, friction and turbulence."

Security Forces Open to ANC Infiltration

"The Security Police have often boasted of their ability to penetrate the ANC to the 'highest levels,'" says Patrick Laurence on page 15. "But the court appearance of the two black policemen raises the question of the extent to which the police in particular, and the Security Forces in general, are open to counterpenetration by the ANC." Professor of strategic studies at the University of South Africa Deon Fourie says that "the police, unlike the Defence Force, lack a comprehensive system of 'command and control,'" and that he finds them "'very unsophisticated.'" Laurence notes that the ANC has "set itself the ambitious task of subverting black policemen and not merely of penetrating police ranks. As more and more blacks are recruited into the police and the paramilitary auxiliaries which augment them, the chances of disaffection may well increase."

THE STAR: Whites Can Influence Their Future

On page 8 of Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 15 November Harvey Tyson says in his "Undercurrent Afffairs" column that the major problem South Africa faces today is "that the white electorate is unprepared to face reality." He believes those who "have already written off this piece of the sub-continent as an incipient banana republic, sinking into a seemingly endless swamp of violence" are realists. He says voters "have to be shown that black rule is inevitable, and that shared power is unlikely. They need to know that this is not an opinion or a possible scenario, but a mathematical certainty." However, he says there is "still time for each one of us to influence the future." Private individuals and the private sector must be prepared to "supply leadership in areas where there is a vacuum." "Business leaders are realising that while the government is foolishly shortsighted in failing to share political power properly, private enterprise is equally stupid in refusing to share economic power. Capitalism, as well as democracy, will die if the disenfranchised are not given shares immediately."

Botha French Visit Successful

On the same page Bruce Cameron says State President Botha's visit to Delville Wood in France was "carefully orchestrated with a slick professionalism which was aimed at highlighting that South Africa was also concerned with the fight for freedom and democracy, while countering claims that the Government was using the memorial for political expediency." Cameron says the trip should be "considered a success," since President Botha "did not attempt to adopt bullying tactics," and remained "cleverly tactful." "No doubt there will continue to be controversy over the memorial, but on a much lower level."

VADERLAND on Foreign Indoctrination of Blacks

A page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 13 November says that it appears that South Africa is "fighting a losing battle" abroad against the propaganda of the ANC and other enemies. However, "the country can survive that, provided it does not also lose the battle for the emotions and thinking of the black people in the country." The paper notes that there is "an attitude of recklessness" which leads to unemployment which further leads to a "fatalistic acceptance by the blacks that there is in any case nothing more to lose." "It remains unacceptable that the United States through its embassy here indoctrinates black people to a point of view that is irreconcilable with a just and practical solution." There are also black leaders who "too successfully propagate the idea of a black take over." South Africa should not allow the "opportunities and freedom for others to indoctrinate our people to the detriment of the country."

BEELD: RSA Not to Endure Insults 'Passively'

"How must South Africa fight back against an opposition which abides by no rules," asks Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 14 November in a page 12 editorial. "If we endure all the insults passively, an international psychosis can develop which will only lead to more punitive measures and more isolation." *Beeld* says South Africa needs a "new acceptable image which can be projected to the outside world; an image of tranquil self assurance; an image of a country that is slowly but surely establishing a wider democracy; and of a country which is not dependent on Europe but is an Africa power in its own right, and without whose cooperation the quality of life of the continent cannot be improved."

Crisis Situation Leads to Unity

Willie Kuhn says on the same page in the "Political Image" column that "crises can tear people apart or they can unite them." He notes that the pressure on South Africa, and the tension, has created a crisis situation but it has allowed for a "faster move towards powersharing with coloreds and Indians in Parliament." Kuhn points out that the "interference" by other countries does not necessarily mean that those countries "have South Africa's interests at heart." He says that blacks and whites should unite and together seek a solution or together "go under."

17 Nov Press Review

MB170648 [Editorial report]

THE SUNDAY STAR: Sanctions Retard Political Change

"The effects of sanctions crowd in on South Africa by the day. Some effects are negligable, some serious, many unexpected; nearly all of them, on evidence so far available, seem as likely to retard political change as to hasten it," says Johannesburg *The Sunday Star* in English on 16 November in the page 18 editorial. The paper believes that economic upliftment "through an expanding economy remains one of the surer ways of making South Africa a better society." It agrees with PFP leader Colin Eglin's statement at a New York conference this week that punitive measures "will not bring down the Botha Government," but will "weaken black economic muscle and delay the process of change." "perhaps, in a few years' time, the disinvestors will contemplate a South Africa wracked by massive unemployment and ruled by even tougher policies, and wonder where, they went wrong. But by then it will be much too late for them to do anything to help."

French Trip Builds Anti-Sanctions Solidarity

On the same page political correspondent David Breier writes that President Botha's trip to France last week "emphasised just how isolated his Government has become, political analysts say." However, his trip to open the Delville Wood South African War Museum "may pay dividends in domestic politics at home" by building "anti-sanctions solidarity to catch votes in a possible General Election next year." The trip also "served to heal old wounds between the Opposition, which supported South Africa's effort in two world wars." Peter Gastrow, national chairman of the PFP, says "'the doors which Mr Botha thought he could open are already tightly sealed and will remain sealed until there is a fundamental move away from apartheid. Only back doors are open to him.'" Director of programs at the SA Institute of International Affairs says that "as a public-relations excercise, the visit had failed."

PFP Faces Watershed at 'Radical' Congress

On the same page David Breier says the PFP is due to take a "major turn to the Left" at is Federal Congress in Johannesburg next week. "Resolutions will urge the party to drop the minority veto from its constitutional policy and to become more active in resisting apartheid. PFP spokesmen say the congress will be a watershed for the party, identifying it more closely with black political aspirations and distancing it more than ever from traditional parliamentary politics." Breier notes that "one of the most radical motions is from the national executive of the Young Progressives proposing that the PFP actively support sanctions against State and military institutions. The motivation is that this is a peaceful way of showing opposition to apartheid without hurting the South African economy." Breier also believes that the tone of the congress could be set by Dr Nthato Motlana, president of the Soweto Civic Association which is the UDF affiliate, who will address the PFP on "'black aspirations and white fears.'"

PFP Bid To Oust National Anthem

"A dramatic move has started in the Progressive Federal Party to recognise the African anthem 'Nkosi Sikelel' i-Afrika' [God Bless Africa] as South Africa's national anthem instead of 'Die Stem' [The Call]," says David Breier in another article on the same page. "This forms part of a movement to overhaul the PFP's policy and image to fit the realities of a 'new South Africa' which will be the theme of the federal congress in Johannesburg next week." "But, because there are elements in the PFP reluctant to antagonise the Afrikaans community, there is a strong possibility that a compromise resolution could be proposed to recognise 'Nkosi Sikelel' i-Afrika' in addition to 'die Stem'."

State of Emergency Not Working

On page 19 Jon Qwelane Writes on the effects of the state of emergency which was declared 6 months ago. Qwelane says that beneath the "superficial placidity" of the black people, is a "highly noticeable hardening of attitudes." "Despite constant assurances by the Bureau for information that the Emergency is working because politically inspired violence is said to be on the wane, what has in fact happened is that the crackdown has virtually accomplished the exact opposite of what was intended." Qwelane points out that the violence has not abated, and the clampdown led to the virtual ruin of township councils, since it is losing 6 million rand in unpaid rents in Soweto alone each month. "Schooling has virtually collapsed in some areas of the country," and "a two-week-old boycott of buses, while intended as protest against the 17.5 percent of fare rises in the Transvaal, has become linked to the other poltical pressures on the Government." Qwelane believes that "an inescapable consequence of the last six months of siege has been the politicisation of many black communities and the singling out of the Government's policies as the main problem."

THE SUNDAY STAR: Frontline Irked by Malawi-RSA Links

On pages 1 and 2 of the "Review" section of *The Sunday Star* Gerald L'Ange comments on the disclosure of the plan by Mozambique and Zimbabwe to overthrow Malawian President Kamuzu Banda. L'Ange believes that Banda's "internal position remains as secure as ever. There is unlikely to be any challenge to him from Malawians concerned about the predicament in which their country now finds itself, or from exiled dissidents." "Dr Banda retains a tight grip on the government, the people, the police and the army." L'Ange says that Banda is "far less concerned with retaining political power than with keeping his country's foreign trade flowing, for the guerilla war in Mozambique has cut Malawi's most direct routes to the sea — the railway to the ports of Nacala and Beira." The forced routing of Malawi's traffic through South African ports by way of Zambia and Zimbabwe, estimated at over 2 million rand, which "reverberated through the entire economy," does not appear to "have eroded Dr Banda's public support, which includes an assiduously promoted power base among Malawi's women." L'Ange says that Banda has "ruthlessly removed" any politician who appeared to be gaining enough power or popularity to threaten him. L'Ange also says that Malawi's "close trade and diplomatic links with South Africa clearly irk the Frontline radicals, who are determined to increase South Africa's isolation," and Banda will have to "react to the demands of the Frontline States, which are bound to be repeated."

Power Sharing Remaining Issue To Solve

On page 3 Peter Sullivan writes in the "Sullivan on Sunday" column that President Botha's visit to Delville Wood in France will "probably bring home to Mr Botha and his colleagues the values of the Western world, values worth fighting for." Sullivan believes that the "best memorial to Delville Wood would be the scrapping of the Group Areas Act." He says when Parliament convenes in January, the Group Areas Act "will be placed under the spotlight and there is no doubt in my mind that we will have 'grey' areas next year." "The time has come to shift the goalposts again. When social and residential apartheid has been removed, the remaining issue will finally be isolated and ready for resolution: political power sharing with a common franchise."

'Ostrich' Mentality Must Change

"Most whites in South Africa live in islands unaware of the turbulence which is occurring in the areas beyond their immediate living and working environment," says Harry Schwarz in his "Talking Cents" column on the same page. "Perhaps people do not care, perhaps because of restrictions on publications they are not adequately informed. Some prefer to be ostriches and feel happier not knowing." "What we really ought to do is become better informed, so that we can make judgements on alternatives and options open to South Africa. The only way to do this is through communication and if it cannot be done through the media or through study, then we should do it on a one-to-one basis." "A white ostrich, when eventually it takes its head out of the sand, might be surprised at how the surroundings have changed."

SUNDAY TIMES on Group Areas Act

A page 28 editorial in Johannesburg *Sunday Times* in English on 16 November notes that the "police and judiciary have not been prosecuting offenders" of the Group Areas Act. A "reason offered itself — a survey shows that nearly a quarter of the residents of three high-density inner Johannesburg areas are black." The paper is concerned that "these shadow communities" lay open to "persecution by right-wing vigilantes," and law does not afford them protection from exploitation by landlords. "From the Government's side the paradox is worse. They uncomfortably preside over the large scale flouting of their race laws — but draw none of the public relations benefits from their repeal or amendment." If the government regards "legalised 'grey areas' as a means to defend the core principles of the Group Areas Act, we are hardly further down the road to a fairer society," but if the government welcomes them "as a means to transform the principle, the implications are profound."

SUNDAY TIMES Condemns U.S. Congressional 'Hit List'

A page 28 editorial in *Sunday Times* comments on the U.S. congressional "'hit list'" of companies singled out for punishment. "Congress has decreed that the mere fact of being a parastatal, or receiving any form of State subsidy, constitutes unpardonable conduct. No matter that such concerns employ thousands of blacks who have families to educate and children to feed, American's lawmakers have ruled that reduced exports — leading to reduced production and retrenchments — are a price hapless innocents must pay so that Capitol Hill can have a nice warm feeling about fighting apartheid."

IDASA To Promote Nonracial, Democratic RSA

On the same page former leader of the PFP Federick van Zyl Slabbert says: "The concept of democracy that IDASA [Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa] supports is one where the structure and composition of government is determined by the nonracial participation of the adult individual in the political process." IDASA hopes to meet the challenge of generating a "post-apartheid nonracial democratic South Africa that is so compelling that most South Africans would rather work to bring it about than fight against or cling to the present one."

IDASA hopes to do this on four levels of activity. Firstly by "region/local based activity" to "assist people to explore what they themselves can and are prepared to do." Secondly, by workshops, seminars and conferences inside South Africa. Thirdly, by international conferences on democracy for South Africa, and fourthly by research and publications. IDASA will "collate research that has already been done and relate it to interested organisations and individuals." Slabbert says that IDASA is a "grassroots, bottom-up initiative and will only progress in response to clearly defined needs and requests of the communities and organisations who wish to promote its central values of a nonracial democratic South Africa."

Botha Commended for French Visit

"The irony was palpable, and bitter to the taste, as the smallish band of South Africans assembled in the clearing at Delville Wood," says Tertius Myburg on page 29. They were there to honour thousands of their countrymen who had given their lives in two great wars in Europe, yet it was necessary to protect them "against who-knows-what kind of protests." Myburgh says "such is our pariah status that even the centrist governmemt of Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, in a state of fragile 'cohabitation' with President Mitterrand's Socialists, could not bring itself to assign even a junior Cabinet Minister to represent it at the ceremony." Nevertheless, Myburgh believes that it was not wrong for President Botha to visit France despite knowing in advance that a "snub" awaited him. "The divisions that plagued our country at that time and aroused such regrettable passions are past now, and to the extent that they still exist Mr Botha must be commended for seeking finally to consign them to history by his own example."

Memorial Visit Underlines Internal Divisions

Former editor of *Die Vaderland* Harald Pakendorf says in his "Another Voice" column on the same page that President Botha's visit to France to lay a wreath at Delville Wood memorial "meant that we had put our own internal dissensions behind us. We, all of us, were meant to see in that act a gesture of wiping out the past. Yet it ended not as a gesture of rectifying the mistakes of the past but emphasisng where we stand today. Not laying a wreath to our common past but to our common present — mainly because we do not have a common today." Pakendorf believes that gesture "underlined our internal divisions, it showed how the world had turned its back on us — that 'we' meant being white because it also said that if a black, the right one, had come, the bands would have been out, the red carpet rolled out." "Now, it seems, what we as whites have to do to lay our wreaths without being insulted is to roll over and allow the world to walk over us."

White Youth To Assume Leadership Role

University of Stellenbosch student leader Phillip Verster says on the same page, "leaders among the white youth are gearing themselves for a showdown with apartheid idealogists." Verster believes that the government "had it coming," "owing to their unwaivering hard-line approach towards credible black organisations banned in South Africa. This dilemma transcends the boundaries of their worst fears as the white youth steadily aligns itself with a perceptibly more crictical approach towards failing 'self-governing policies' and Government's ability to cope with real black political aspirations." "The white youth seems to be in need of strong leadership that can provide promises of security and peace, leadership that can set up the rough skeleton of a new South Africa. I believe that no form of individual leadership will meet these demands, but that the white youth must, as a group, accept this leadership responsibility."